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VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 19330 FRIDAY, JULY 19, 1995

## 228 dead in TWA plane crash

### Terrorist bombing not discounted

MARILYN HENRY  
and news agencies  
NEW YORK

RESCUERS pulled more than 100 burned bodies from the waters off Long Island yesterday, as an FBI anti-terrorism team investigated what caused a TWA Boeing 747 to explode over the Atlantic shortly after takeoff Wednesday night. All 228 people aboard were apparently killed.

President Bill Clinton and Attorney-General Janet Reno warned against jumping to conclusions about what caused the plane to crash. But Congressman Charles Schumer of New York said the FBI told him there were two possibilities: "Either that there was a bomb, or an engine exploded and set a fuel tank on fire." Such an explosion and fire, however, has never happened on a 747, Schumer said.

Robert Francis, the National Transportation Safety Board's vice chairman, said there is no evidence the crash was not an accident, though he added, "That's where we start in every case like this."

Francis said he had no information about a report that one of the plane's two "black boxes" had been recovered.

A law enforcement official said that based on eyewitness accounts from Air National Guard pilots, the FBI told him it is "leaning more toward the possibility that it was a bomb that caused the plane to explode."

"They are still investigating all other possibilities," he added. White House spokesman Mike McCurry said there had been "a variety of calls" claiming responsibility for the crash, but their



US Coast Guard officers unload bodies from a patrol boat at the Moriches Coast Guard Station yesterday following the crash of TWA Flight 800 off the southern coast of Long Island.

credibility was doubtful. Flight 800, a 25-year-old Boeing 747 bound for Paris's Charles de Gaulle Airport from Kennedy Airport, exploded about 8:45 p.m. and plunged into the ocean off Fire Island, a narrow strip of land that runs parallel to Long Island. It fell in 36-meter deep water about 64 kilometers east of New York.

One of the plane's two "black boxes" had been recovered, said Congressman Michael Forbes of Long Island. Federal investigators were not immediately available for comment, and Forbes did not know if the box was the voice or data recorder.

Wreckage and fuel on the water burned for hours, as helicopters hovered. A C-130 transport plane circled, dropping parachute flares to illuminate the scene. Overnight, rescuers used infrared goggles to help spot bodies. Fresh crews were brought in at daybreak. By 8 a.m., rescuers had pulled more than 100 bodies from the water, some of them burned beyond recognition.

With a water temperature of 18 C and an air temperature of 23 C, officials estimated that survival would not be possible much beyond late yesterday morning.

Among those booked on the flight was a group of 16 students and five adults from a

### One Israeli victim identified

HAIM SHAPIRO and Itim

AN Israeli victim of the TWA plane explosion was identified last night as 29-year-old Gadi Notis of Ra'anana.

Notis, who worked for a New York investment house, took the flight to Paris with several other investors to close a deal there. Yesterday morning, his parents became concerned when they did not hear of his arrival. His colleagues contacted a Paris hotel where he was to stay, and were told he had not arrived. Notis's name was not found in a check of passenger lists on all other flights to Paris.

Ya'acov Notis said by late yesterday afternoon he had received no official word from TWA that Gadi was among the passengers. He contacted TWA in Israel and the US, and the Foreign Ministry, and then foreign television and correspondents in an attempt to get verification. The Notis's said their calls were constantly transferred throughout the day.

Finally at 7 p.m., the Foreign Ministry officially informed them that Gadi was on the passenger list.



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak shakes hands with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as they meet at the presidential palace in Cairo yesterday.

### PM, Mubarak agree peace process will continue

STEVE RODAN  
CAIRO

DETERMINED to avert an Arab-Israeli crisis, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Hosni Mubarak agreed yesterday that the peace process would continue, with Israeli implementation of agreements with the Palestinians and negotiations based on the Madrid conference formula.

"I could tell you that I am very relaxed," Mubarak said after his meeting with Netanyahu. "I understand his conceptions and I have great hope that the peace process will continue." The two men met alone for two hours. Aides said they discussed

Israeli negotiations with the Palestinians and Syria, bilateral issues, and regional affairs such as terrorism and economic development. Mubarak and Netanyahu were then each joined by an aide who took notes, and later they met their delegations for lunch.

Both Egyptian and Israeli officials praised the meeting, and said each side appreciated the other's practical approach to issues. Israeli officials said the success of the talks cleared the way for contacts between the Likud-led government and other Arab states, particularly Jordan, to be

(Continued on Page 20)

### Weizman pardons two Palestinian women

Israel's President Ezer Weizman yesterday has pardoned two Palestinian prisoners, who would be freed next week. The announcement came in a letter sent to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

At the same time, Weizman shortened the sentences of four Jews convicted of murdering Arabs. The women are serving long jail terms for involvement in killing Israelis.

The previous government had promised Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat that all 36 Palestinian women prisoners would be freed.

However, Weizman then refused to pardon the two women - Anam Jabari, sentenced to 12 years as a minor for murdering a yeshiva student in Jerusalem's Sacher Park eight years ago, and Mai Aljesta, who stabbed a yeshiva

### TASE rebounds from 11-session slump

STOCKS rose on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange yesterday for the first time in 11 sessions.

The Maof Index rose 4.22% to 187.05. The Two-Sided Index advanced 3.81% to 176.66, rebounding from its lowest point since April 1995.

For the week, the Maof shed 5.1% and the Two-Sided Index dropped 4.6%.

Full report, Page 16

SHABBAT	BEGINS	ENDS
Jerusalem	7:07	8:28
Tel Aviv	7:25	8:28
Hatza	7:19	8:29
Beer Sheva	7:22	8:19
Eilat	7:19	8:22

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# Germans identify MIAs' remains IDF details easing of closure

BEIRUT (AP) - German security officials yesterday positively identified the skeletons of Israeli soldiers Rahamim Aisheikh and Yosef Fink and agreement was reached on a list of Hizbullah prisoners to be exchanged for the remains of the two soldiers killed in Lebanon a decade ago, government sources reported.

They said German mediator Bernd Schmidbauer was due to travel from Damascus to Beirut today to set the operation in motion in cooperation with Lebanese

Interior Minister Michel Murr.

The German team, including a coroner and a forensic expert, arrived in Beirut aboard a chartered jetliner Wednesday as Schmidbauer was negotiating in Damascus final details of the swap with representatives of Hizbullah and Lebanese and Syrian officials.

The dispute over the numbers of Moslems to be exchanged remains unresolved, the Lebanese sources said. But they said they expect Schmidbauer to obtain final figures

when he travels to Jerusalem to deliver the findings of the forensic examination.

Hizbullah says it wants Israel to hand back the remains of some 100 gunmen killed in south Lebanon over the past 10 years in addition to the 200 prisoners, most of whom are held in the village of Khiam in the security zone.

Yesterday, IDF troops continued to exhume bodies of Hizbullah dead. Dozens of bodies have been removed from the cemetery at Kibbutz Gadot on the banks of the Jordan River.

THE IDF last night detailed steps to ease the five-month-old closure of the territories, announcing that 10,000 more Palestinian laborers would be allowed into Israel and other moves aimed at enhancing the dire economic situation there.

The announcement followed Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's visit to Cairo, where he said Israel had planned to lift

**ARIEH O'SULLIVAN**

some restrictions that have kept tens of thousands of Palestinian workers from jobs in Israel.

According to the IDF, another 10,000 laborers - over 29 and married - are to be added to the 25,000 already permitted to work in Israel.

Another 500 laborers are to be allowed in to the Erez industrial

zone, provided they are at least 25 and married, the army said. It added that 350 more entry permits are also to be handed out to merchants and that 250 medical personnel are to be allowed to enter Israel.

An additional 10 ambulances are to be allowed to cross into Israel, and the IDF plans to ease the movement of trucks from the territories.

## Crash victims' relatives put on hold

MARILYN HENRY  
NEW YORK

ON a picture-perfect summer day, recovery teams used hooks, hands, and fishing nets to pull corpses and body parts from the Atlantic Ocean off Long Island.

Debris from the horror of the night before, when TWA Flight 800 appeared to explode in the air before plunging into the ocean, was scattered over 25 square miles.

Some of it was still smoldering 18 hours later, as it bobbed gently in the water and brilliantly reflected the sunlight. Teams led by the US Coast Guard continued the search throughout the day for the remains of the 228 passengers and crew aboard the Paris-bound flight.

Some time around midday, the name of the mission subtly changed from "rescue" to "recovery," in a tacit acknowledgement that there were no survivors.

Sections of the beach near the summer resort area of the Hamptons, on the southeastern end of the island, were cordoned off, in the event bodies and debris wash in with the tide. The identities of the passengers were not released, pending notification of relatives. Television networks fielded calls from families look-

ing for information.

David O'Brien was distraught that he could not get news about his son. He called numerous government agencies, then the airport police. Then he called a television station. "I gave them reports on what my son was wearing," O'Brien told one interviewer. He could not reach anyone at TWA. "I was on hold for two-and-a-half hours," he said.

After visiting the relatives of 35 passengers and crew members, New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani called TWA management "abysmal and horrible." The families were filled with questions about the crash, the mayor said early yesterday, but "We can't find anyone to communicate with."

TWA's middle- and upper-management have been working nonstop since notification of this incident and we want to be responsive as long as we can," TWA spokesman John McDonald said at corporate headquarters in St. Louis. "Therefore, we are rotating people to make sure there are people available to deal with the passengers and families involved."

(Continued on Page 15)

## Netanyahu, Mubarak discuss interests, not ideology

### 'Egyptian president believes what PM says'

BACKGROUND  
STEVE RODAN / CAIRO

FOR Israeli officials, the meeting of Benjamin Netanyahu and Hosni Mubarak resembled the fable of the rabbi and the poor woman.

The poor woman complained to the rabbi that her home was cramped. The rabbi ordered the woman to stuff all her animals and belongings inside her house. Then, just when she was about to burst into tears, the rabbi told her to take everything outside.

The relief the woman felt, officials said, was similar to that Mubarak experienced when he met Netanyahu.

"Mubarak was relieved because the Arab world was thinking and saying that Netanyahu would stop everything," a government source said. "That was the main concern."

Officials said Mubarak learned otherwise on Wednesday, when the prime minister's senior foreign policy adviser, Dore Gold, flew to Cairo and met with Mubarak's adviser, Osama Baz. The two men worked on an agenda for the talks and Gold outlined Netanyahu's positions on the Middle East negotiations.

It took a lot of preparatory work," an aide to the prime minister said. "It's not like you come into Cairo and talk over a cup of coffee."

Mubarak's other concern was Netanyahu's style. Unlike many Arab leaders, Mubarak eschews flowery language and demands straight talk. The Egyptian president was worried that he was going to get a lecture from the prime minister that would echo those heard from previous Likud heads of government.

But Mubarak's approach suited Netanyahu just fine. "The talk wasn't over ideology, but over interests," an Israeli official said. "With ideology, you can't bridge anything. But with interests you can find points of common ground."

Aides to Netanyahu insist the prime minister did not give anything away in his one-on-one session with Mubarak. Netanyahu assured the Egyptian president that the issues concerning the IDF

redeployment in Hebron are being resolved and Mubarak had some suggestions of his own. The Israeli leader assured his Egyptian counterpart that his government would enter final status talks with the Palestinians.

"The positions didn't change after the visit," an aide said. "But Mubarak now believes what Netanyahu says."

Officials hope the meeting would lead to progress in Israel's efforts to establish relations with the Arab world. Foreign Minister David Levy is planning to meet Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat next week.

That will be followed by a visit by Netanyahu to Amman to meet with Jordan's King Hussein. At the same time, Foreign Ministry officials will try to renew efforts to establish diplomatic missions in the Gulf and Maghreb states, particularly Qatar.

"Until now, none of the Arab countries has cancelled any agreement but since the elections everything has been put on hold," an official said. "We see that as an achievement in itself. With meetings with the Palestinians and Egyptians under our belt, we hope things will improve."

## Mubarak meets the press

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK  
STEVE RODAN / CAIRO

EGYPTIAN President Hosni Mubarak appeared tired and tense at the news conference that followed his long talk with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday morning.

That was before lunch. Then Mubarak wanted another crack at the media. This time, it would be just him and Israeli-based reporters. He sent Netanyahu off in a military helicopter on a high-flying tour of the pyramids, then entered the room full of waiting reporters and shook everybody's hand.

He wanted to discard English and the television cameras. "If you're in Israel, you should speak Arabic," he said. "If you want the cameras, I will speak guardedly. If you don't have them, I can be freer."

The reporters agreed to a bit of both, and Mubarak fielded questions from reporters skeptical that he had found a common language with Netanyahu, whom Cairo newspapers are calling "Hitler."

Mubarak, who will visit Washington later this month, acknowledged that he, too, had been skeptical. "I personally heard his speeches in the Knesset and Congress and his press conference," he said. "I couldn't understand how we could proceed forward. Were those views he was

presenting definitely going to happen or did he have another concept?"

"When I met him today, I had a clear picture of what could happen, a clear picture of the peace process. It relaxed the whole country, public opinion mainly. You have to be very careful of public opinion. You have to be very careful of what you say to Arabs."

"You can give a speech in the US. You can address the Congress. This may not be satisfactory to the Arabs. So you have to be very careful with the Arabs."

Mubarak said Netanyahu's political affiliation has no bearing on his expectations. "I have big hopes," he said. "We had a peace with the Likud. [The return of] Taba was with Labor, and we will end with the Likud. I don't deal with the parties. I deal with the State of Israel."

He said he shares Netanyahu's concern about terrorism. But he suggested that he has a different approach. While the Israelis want to organize a regional battle against terrorism now, Egypt wants to exploit the peace process to battle violence and instability.

"We have to understand that comprehensive peace will achieve victory over terrorism and violence," he said.



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### Swiss Ambassador Visits Netanya's Laniado

The Swiss Ambassador to Israel, M. Pierre Monod, accompanied by his wife, Ninette, on his first official visit since presenting his credentials last week, joined Mr. Marcel Hess, a member of the Canton Parliament of Basle, on a tour of Netanya's Laniado Hospital where Mr. Hess has initiated a fund for the long-awaited Orthopedic / Trauma Unit.

Pictured from right to left: The Ambassador M. Monod, Dr. Meir Weissbrod, Director of Neonatology, Chaim Richler, Director of Public Relations

### Four die in head-on crash

FOUR persons were killed early yesterday morning and a fifth was seriously injured when a truck and car collided head-on at the entrance to Safed. Their names were not released by press time. Police are investigating the cause of the crash. (Tm)

### Winning numbers and cards

In last night's Paysis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 323939 won NIS 1,000,000.

The holder of ticket number 246627 won a car.

Ticket # 22174, 690976, 089574, 420 NIS 5,000. Tickets in 11363, 10526, 58152, 77042, 4278, 19823, 03876, 91653, 91708, 57736, 32741 40, 48051, 80941 and 95289 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 959, 868, 190, and 452 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 05, 06, 93, 38 won NIS 50. Tickets ending in 06 and 55 won NIS 20.

Tickets ending in 4 and 7 won NIS 10.

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the eight of spades, seven of hearts, queen of diamonds, and king of clubs.

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Ch. 11/15/96

### Suissa accused of violating Har Homa ban

BILL HUTMAN

INTERIOR Minister Eli Suissa allegedly violated a court ban on holding a hearing on the controversial Har Homa housing plan in March while serving as Jerusalem District Planning Committee chairman.

Interior Minister Eli Suissa allegedly violated a court ban on holding a hearing on the controversial Har Homa housing plan in March while serving as Jerusalem District Planning Committee chairman.

### MKs divided on Hebron redeployment

LIAT COLLINS

HEBRON, the scene of a large number of fact-finding tours lately, was visited yesterday by six members of the Knesset Interior Committee.

Tarif told reporters there is no choice but to go ahead with the IDF redeployment, despite existing and possible future security problems.

rule out participating in protests against the government if the withdrawal plans are implemented.

### Insurance officials arrested for huge fraud

BILL HUTMAN and Jerusalem Post Staff

THREE major players in the nation's insurance industry allegedly executed a multi-million shekel insurance fraud scam, investigators said yesterday after a court ban was lifted on publication of the probe.

They are suspected of issuing false insurance policies to several kibbutzim - including Afikim, Hagshirim, Beit Hashita, and Yagur - without demanding payment, in order to inflate their record books.

### Sarid petitions Court to keep issuing gas masks

EVELYN GORDON

MK Yossi Sarid (Meretz) petitioned the High Court of Justice yesterday against the government's decision to stop distributing gas masks.

### 'Yediot' undercover study faults security on buses

MARGOT DUDKEVICH

SERIOUS security breaches in public transportation have been found in an undercover investigation carried out by Yediot Tikshoret reporters.

reporter boarded the bus and sat several seats behind to see if the driver - or one of the guards of the special public transportation security division set up after a wave of bus bombings at the beginning of the year - noticed the unattended bag.

The report also stated that, on at least two occasions, bus drivers did not check the special luggage section on the side of the bus, even though regulations require all drivers to check it regularly.

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## Welcome change in Cairo

EGYPTIAN President Hosni Mubarak's comments at his joint press conference with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday were a welcome change from the messages emanating from the rest of the Arab world this week. After meeting privately with Netanyahu, Mubarak said he now "understands [Netanyahu's] conception" and has "great hopes that the peace process will continue."

It is to be hoped that Egypt, which until yesterday had joined the rest of the Arab world in accusing Netanyahu of "killing the process," will now persuade its Arab brethren to modify their tone as well — because it is this tone, rather than Netanyahu's statements, which has indeed made the future of the process look shaky this week.

That Syria launched a vicious attack on Netanyahu is not surprising. Having refused every offer made it by the previous government, Syria feels a need to justify its own intransigence by blaming Israel. However, similar reactions from the Palestinian Authority and Arab countries with which Israel has relations — including Egypt, whose press greeted Netanyahu yesterday with hanger headlines reading "Netanyahu, we don't want you in Cairo" — are hard to reconcile with peaceful relations.

Palestinian Authority Council speaker Ahmed Qreia, for instance, said last week that Netanyahu's position is "dangerous," because he is promoting a "new concept of security for peace," while the current process "is based on land for peace." Netanyahu has indeed made it clear that security for Israelis is a precondition for moving the negotiations forward. However, if the PA considers security an unacceptable minimum to offer in exchange for the very real asset of land which Israel is giving up, the value of the process seems questionable.

Faisal Hussaini, the PA's minister for Jerusalem affairs, declared recently that Israel does not have the right to condition further implementation of the agreement on PA compliance with what has already been signed. This unwillingness to acknowledge a need for reciprocity is also worrying. The entire point of an interim agreement, which is what the Oslo Accords are, is to see how they work before going further. There can be no peace if only one side must keep the agreement, while the other side is free of all obligations.

Most worrying of all, however, is a resolution published over the weekend by the PA's executive committee, which stated that, "Without a retreat by Israeli forces to the June 4, 1967 borders (including eastern Jerusalem)... there will be no peace in the Middle East, and the door to

violent conflict will be opened."

To insist that one side capitulate fully to the other's demands under threat of war is not peace — it is appeasement. It is also a certain recipe for the failure of negotiations.

The PA has made it clear that it understands this principle as applied to Israeli actions: Saeb Erakat, the PA's minister for municipal affairs, responded to Netanyahu's declaration on the indivisibility of Jerusalem by saying: "[Netanyahu] can't dictate the results of the negotiations before they begin. If he chooses this method... the meaning is that we don't have a peace process anymore."

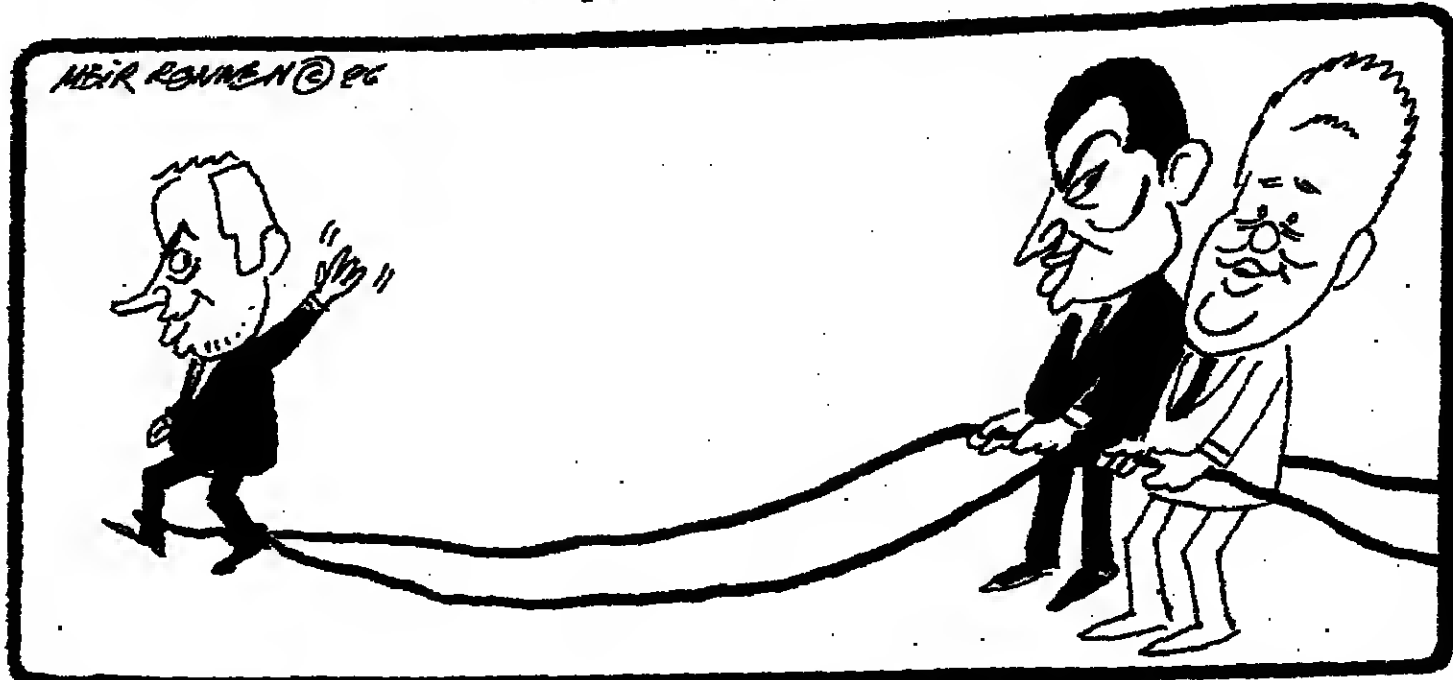
However, this principle must apply equally to the Palestinian side. To say it is illegitimate for Netanyahu to declare Jerusalem to be Israel's eternal capital — a statement Faisal Hussaini termed "a declaration of war" — but acceptable for the PLO to declare, as it repeatedly has, that no agreement is possible unless eastern Jerusalem becomes the capital of a Palestinian state, is to establish a double standard which precludes negotiations.

Furthermore, such statements are not made in a vacuum: They also engender action. As a senior army officer told *Ha'aretz*, earlier this week, "These strong statements by senior officials in the Palestinian Authority do not accord with their agreements with Israel," because "there is no other way to interpret them" except as a call to violence. "These words translate in the field into violent demonstrations and fire-bombs," the officer said.

None of this is to say that the Palestinians do not have legitimate concerns. The PA's desire for an end to the closure, IDF redeployment in Hebron, and a timetable for the final status talks are eminently understandable. It is also understandable that, having become accustomed to the previous government's vow to continue the process at any price, the PA is finding it hard to adjust to Netanyahu's unprecedented demand for reciprocity — especially since it has until now had the support of the entire Arab world for its position. At a meeting earlier this week, the foreign ministers of Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates issued a statement announcing that if the process fails, it will be Israel's fault no matter what actually happens.

However, the results of the elections made it clear that the Israeli people is no longer willing to keep giving without seeing any return. If the peace process is to have a future, the Palestinians must show they are willing to give as well as take. If they are not, the "peace" was never more than an illusion to begin with.

'Just give him enough rope...'



## Partners, Egyptian-style

MOSHE ZAK

ALL the pundits were wrong. No crisis erupted yesterday between President Mubarak and Prime Minister Netanyahu in Cairo. The cordiality that welcomed Netanyahu in Washington had its effect on the Egyptians.

And it's a good thing Netanyahu didn't announce, on his return from Washington early this week, that he had achieved full agreement with President Clinton over the specific steps of the peace process. Why? Because agreement of this kind wouldn't be in Israel's interests — or America's, for that matter. Netanyahu enumerated the various agreements with the US on bilateral issues: arms development, economic matters, and the war against terror. He didn't say anything about any Israeli-US understanding on the details of negotiations with the Palestinians or Syrians.

Had Netanyahu announced that he and Clinton had come to an understanding over the content of an Israeli-Arab settlement, or over acceptance of the "land for peace" principle that the Arabs are demanding, he would have been suspected of breaking his election campaign promises.

It isn't any secret, after all, that there has been no absolute conformity of views over the years between Israel and the US on questions like Jerusalem, borders and refugees. And Israel's participation in the Madrid conference was on condition that the "land for peace" formula wouldn't be brought up.

This formula means that full peace can be achieved only in exchange for complete withdrawal. As such, it goes against the original American stand on the essence of Security Council Resolution 242, which refrained from demanding withdrawal from all the territories. Over the years the US has felt that secure and recognized borders

should be achieved through negotiations between the parties, with the US insuring any settlement reached.

Now this is in Israel's interest, particularly after Clinton's promise, in line with most of his predecessors, that he would not force a settlement on Israel.

And it is imperative that the US remain an "honest broker," helping the parties negotiate without

ripeness to impose a solution on Israel, aided by threats of a renewed intifada. Waving the banner of "land for peace" they think they can force a complete Israeli withdrawal from the territories.

BUT THEY are wrong. It won't work. The Arabs will find they have no choice but to initiate a renewal of the talks — unconditionally.

Mubarak had to show the premier his sunny side to prepare the ground for his trip to the US

forcing solutions on either side.

The fact that Israelis went against the president's recommendation and elected Netanyahu showed the Arabs that America has only a limited ability to pressure Israel; and the fact that Netanyahu discussed Jewish settlements in Clinton's presence, implying a position opposed to the US's, surely further showed them that they cannot rely on US pressure on Israel to get what they want.

For that they'll need to negotiate. And that means a willingness to compromise.

The Palestinians might be interpreting the religious-secular clashes on Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan or the Hizbullah strike as signs of national destabilization. If they are, they're wrong.

They don't understand the strong democratic infrastructure of our society, and tend to see developments like the stock exchange crisis as outbreaks of chaos that could lead to the government's downfall. They believe the time may be

Israel has made it clear to the US that it is willing to talk with the Palestinian Authority and with the Syrians. Now it's the other side's turn to respond.

Why should Israel send emissaries to Arafat in Gaza with a list of "talking points" when the PLO leader, ignorant of the finer points of diplomacy, will only be insulted by such a document bearing neither signature nor address?

It is Arafat and his people who must request a meeting with Israeli government representatives at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem.

And regarding Jerusalem, the US should be made aware of the fact that it is perpetrating an odd discrimination between the American Embassy in Israel and the US liaison with the Palestinian Authority.

Clinton's government opposes the implementation of Congress's decision to move the US Embassy to Jerusalem because, in its opinion, the question of Jerusalem has yet to be resolved. On the other hand, the US representative to the

PA isn't based in Gaza, but in Jerusalem.

During the days of the autonomy talks, the US liaison with the Palestinians had an office in the embassy in Tel Aviv. Later, without anyone noticing, liaison with the Palestinians moved to the Consulate General in Jerusalem, which has no ties to the Israeli Foreign Ministry.

Netanyahu and Clinton agreed to disagree on Jewish settlements, and both preferred that the issue be dealt with in Israeli-Arab negotiations. Without getting involved in the details of those negotiations they reached an understanding on the subject of bypass roads: The US will not deduct the amount Israel is allocating to pave these roads from its loan guarantees, since this is defined as a bilateral issue.

But isn't the question of where the US liaison to the Palestinians is based also a bilateral issue? It could have been resolved during the Netanyahu-Clinton encounter at the White House without getting into disputed Israeli-Palestinian issues.

It was evading such issues, after all, that enabled ties between Jerusalem and Washington to be so manifestly cordial. And the warmth with which Netanyahu was welcomed in Washington was felt again yesterday in Cairo.

On the eve of the Egyptian leader's own scheduled visit to the US, he did his utmost to stress his understandings with Netanyahu, since this would of course help him with Congress. And Netanyahu cooperated, assisting Mubarak in his public relations bid vis-a-vis the American public by creating an atmosphere of smooth Israeli-Egyptian relations.

Only time will tell whether such a gesture was justified.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

## All that glitters isn't...

URI AVNERI

ALL that glitters isn't gold — not even Netanyahu wonder boy Dore Gold.

Many years back I remember discussing the subject of Israeli experts on Arab affairs with Boutros Boutros-Ghali. Sadat had just visited Jerusalem, and Boutros-Ghali was serving in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry. The future UN secretary-general was already known for his brilliance.

"You Israelis have the best Arabists in the world," he said with a smile. "They have read every book and article on the Arab world. But they don't understand a thing. Why? Because they have never lived in an Arab state or come into contact with the Arab public."

I recalled this conversation recently in connection with Gold. Those in the prime minister's inner circle speak of Gold with nothing but the highest praise. In their eyes he is a brilliant expert, a true Jewish-American intellectual, the guy with all the answers.

After Gold met with Arafat I asked the Palestinians about their impressions of Wonder Boy. They just shrugged: "Another one who doesn't understand a thing."

Sending Gold to meet with the head of the Palestinian Authority was an empty gesture on Netanyahu's part.

The Americans had demanded that Netanyahu meet with Yasser Arafat. He didn't want to, either from personal conviction or out of

fear of the extreme right-wingers who are becoming entrenched in his government. So he sent Gold in his stead.

That way, despite the total freeze in the peace process,

smile from anyone with even a rudimentary knowledge of Arab reality.

It's no wonder, Netanyahu has almost never talked to real Arabs — except for formal talks with Arab

Netanyahu adviser Dore Gold understands little more than his boss about the Palestinian reality

Netanyahu could travel to the US and sell his hasty lot of bunk about the continuation of the process. All is well; contact has been maintained. Gold has met with Arafat.

Clinton, of course, was happy enough. He has elections coming up in four months and until then he has no desire to quarrel with Israel's government. The last thing he needs is to alienate Jewish American voters.

BUT THE problem goes beyond the prime minister's tendency to play "let's pretend" with the Palestinian Authority.

Binyamin Netanyahu has little understanding of the Arab world in general, and of the Palestinian people in particular. His book-testify to this. They are crammed full of "facts" which evoke a

heads of state and the much-publicized stormy meeting with Arab journalists in Madrid. Everything Bibi knows about Arabs is a collection of slogans, some inherited from his father, some he himself has come up with.

One could argue that a politician doesn't have to know everything. It's enough if he knows how to win an election — and Netanyahu's very good at that.

But if the prime minister knows nothing about an issue vital to national security, for example, it becomes important who his advisers are. And that's where Gold comes in.

I don't know, and I don't care, where Netanyahu found this "expert." What is important is that Gold is dangerous for two reasons: first, because he has no genuine understanding of the

Palestinian reality — at least according to the Palestinians themselves — and second, because both he and Netanyahu think he understands it.

As premier Netanyahu wields enormous power. And he will discover what leaders throughout history have learned: that advisers tell you what you want to hear, and they will furnish you with opinions that mesh with your own.

We've already seen this process in action. Officials involved in Palestinian relations prepared the paperwork for the new prime minister in advance of his US visit. They made sure to write precisely what Netanyahu wanted to hear — for example, on the subject of alleged Palestinian violations of the Oslo accords.

These yes-men, in and out of uniform, are supposed to be the ones who will advance the peace process. Instead they will reinforce the negative attitude of our new premier, a man who knows nothing about Palestinians and has surrounded himself with people who apparently don't know much more.

Understanding is clearly no substitute for political will. No amount of information will help Netanyahu make peace if he isn't interested in peacemaking.

But it would at least help him to know what he's talking about.

The writer heads the Peace Bloc.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### THE PALESTINIAN COVENANT

Sir, — In his letter of July 11, Shmuel Katz does not repeat the falsehood that Yasser Arafat "lifted not a finger" to revoke the Palestine National Covenant, and that is to be welcomed, but he repeats the falsehood that it has still not been revoked.

In 1988 and 1993, Arafat and the PLO did not pretend to revoke the Covenant; they only declared that it was null and void and acted in glaring violation of its fundamental provisions.

On April 22 this year, the Palestine National Council resolved by an overwhelming majority, in the official binding English version reported to the Government of Israel by its chairman, Yasser Arafat: "The Palestine National Charter is hereby amended by cancelling the articles that are contrary to the letters interchanged between the PLO and the Government of Israel September 9-10, 1993" (my italics).

My only objection is with the truth. It is just as harmful to miss the opportunity for peace as it is to ignore the danger of war. If Katz had had his way in the time of the late Menachem Begin, we would still be at war with Egypt and therefore also with Jordan, the other Arab countries with which we have established relations with us and all the Palestinians.

MISHA LOUVISH  
Jerusalem.

### MERETZ PEACE

Sir, — The Labor/Meretz government built numerous bypass roads as part of its "peace" initiative, spending vast sums. Why now, when it comes to religious Jews, does Meretz reject all alternatives in keeping Bar-Ilan Street open on Shabbat? Isn't Shabbat as sacred to religious Jews as the beach is for Meretz? Surely, Meretz is capable of promoting tolerance and peace among Jews, or is a Meretz "peace" false and only for Palestinians?

KEVIN E. ABRAMS  
Safed.

### RECKLESS PURSUIT OF POWER

Sir, — David Levy's venomous ultimatum to Netanyahu is confirmation (if any were needed) of his reckless pursuit of credit and power.

In early 1987, Levy (then Housing Minister) squandered \$300,000, printing an album marking the completion of reconstruction work in the Jewish Quarter of Jerusalem by — guess who — David Levy. The money might have been put to better use in building more housing units. The album featured a full-page color photo of Mr. Levy.

AVRAHAM ERIS  
Zeta.

### HAREDIM

Sir, — The photograph on the front page of your July 7 issue shows a "haredi" being apprehended by Border Police for participating in the Shabbat orgy of violence along Jerusalem's Bar-Ilan Street. Though the caption claims he is a "haredi," I wish to emphasize that neither he, nor any Jewish person throwing stones, excrement, or any other substance on the holy Sabbath, the Jewish day of rest, can be considered a devoutly religious person, a "haredi."

STANLEY BROZA  
Tel Aviv.

### JOB FOR THE BOYS

Sir, — Both in the course of the election campaign and since, we have heard a myriad of promises regarding the modernization, liberalization and privatization of the economy.

In that context, we are now entitled to demand an end to the age-old corrupt practices of "jobs for the boys," i.e. the repayment of political favors by granting appointment to unqualified people at inflated salaries (a start could be made, for example, in the staffing of the new Infrastructure Ministry); or the granting of "licenses to print money" by arranging for "friends" to receive exclusive import licenses?

STANLEY LAWSON  
Jerusalem (Munich).

### NON-ORTHODOX CONVERSION

Sir, — Rabbi Emanuel Feldman's article "Melanie, not Moses" (J.P., June 30) may have been well-intentioned but hardly accords with the facts. Not only is the preparation of converts for a liberal Beit Din generally intensive and painstaking, but I have seen candidates for conversion whom I had rejected for insufficient knowledge, return from Jerusalem with conversion certificates, issued by well-known Orthodox rabbis. Needless to say, the converts did not know an aleph from a taf.

RABBI DR. N.P. LEVISON  
Jerusalem.

### BRADY BOYS' CLUB

Sir, — The Brady Boys' Club, the first Jewish boys' club in the United Kingdom, is celebrating its centenary this year. A year-long program of events has been planned to mark the anniversary in London and at "Skeet," Brady's country house, for those members and Old Bradians living in the UK. We would like to organize a get-together of former Bradians and managers who have made their homes in Israel, and to that end, I would like any former Bradians to contact me by telephone or fax at: (07) 998-2830.

AUBREY GORDON  
Sde Nitzan.

### NO MANDATE

Sir, — Three and a half years ago Rabin and Peres proclaimed that they had a "mandate from the people" to negotiate with the PLO. That arrogant myth was shattered by the recent election, when Israeli Jews voted overwhelmingly to reject Labor/Meretz policies.

Ironically, the Rabin/Peres-led coalition managed to survive only with the support of Arab votes. As the election proved, there was no "mandate."

Why, then, are the Oslo Accords sacred? They do not deserve to be honored by Israel, especially since they have been violated by the PLO.

DR. MOSHE DANN  
Jerusalem.



Opinion 150

# Astute hospitality

JAY BUSHINSKY

**T**O PARAPHRASE a common Hebrew saying, words are one thing, deeds another. That seems highly applicable to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's official visit to Egypt yesterday and his projected visit to Jordan next week.

Anyone who's been taking the vitriol pouring from the editorial and political columns of the Arab press seriously might stop and wonder at a man who has been so consistently depicted as an enemy of regional peace being invited to the presidential and royal palaces of Cairo and Amman.

And the initiative for these exercises in politically astute hospitality came not after behind-the-scenes wheeling and dealing by Israel's envoys to the two Arab capitals, but from the respective hosts, President Hosni Mubarak and King Hussein.

Netanyahu confirmed this at a news conference convened at Ben-Gurion Airport upon his return from the US.

"Both trips were decided on the day I was elected," he said. "I received phone calls from President Mubarak and King Hussein. They both invited me. I said that I'd be happy to take them up on their invitations, but that I would first go to Washington. I went to Washington. Now I'm taking them up on their invitations."

He also criticized the onslaught against him that has dominated the Egyptian and Syrian press, as well as newspapers elsewhere in the Arab world.

"There is rhetoric and there is reality," Netanyahu said. "I suggest to the Arab leaders to lay off the rhetoric and get back to the reality on the ground. There is a new government, and it is ready to advance together with you toward peace. I suggest that you concentrate more on this and less on verbiage."

Underlying this barbed comment was the awareness that the Arab news media are controlled by the Arab regimes and manipulated by them for political or propaganda objectives.

Mubarak and Hussein evidently

understand — much better than the editorial writers of *The New York Times* or the State Department officials who evidently inspire them — not only that Netanyahu is Israel's elected leader, but that it is the better part of wisdom to exchange views with him rather than dismissing him as an incorrigible extremist.

Had Netanyahu implied that he

**Mubarak and Hussein understand that it is the better part of wisdom to meet and talk with Netanyahu**

would not uphold the previous government's commitment to redeploy (a euphemism for withdraw) its troops away from Hebron, as deduced by the *Times*, Mubarak and Hussein might have rescinded their invitations. But he didn't — and they didn't.

Nor is there any basis to contend, as does the *Times*, that Netanyahu wants to prolong the economically-crippling closure of the autonomous Gaza Strip and West Bank.

On the contrary, not only is he seeking ways to lift the closure, but he is also trying to avoid the ethnic separation between Israelis and Palestinians advocated by the former Labor-Meretz coalition in the name of national security.

IT WOULD be quite disingenuous to argue that curtailment or cancellation of the closure imposed after the recent spate of suicide bombings does not carry a substantial risk.

That is why it is so difficult to understand how an American editorial writer can muster the verbal

audacity to say that the closure "is causing great [economic] suffering while serving no evident security purpose."

However imperfect the closure may be, and no matter how advisable it might be to lift it, the *Times* cannot allege that Israel (under Labor-Meretz and now under the Likud) was "unwise to needlessly antagonize the Palestinian population over essential nonpolitical issues of daily life like the blockade of West Bank and Gaza Strip communities."

The Israeli press is not immune to unfair, if not totally preposterous, criticism of Netanyahu either.

Writing in *Ha'aretz* Guy Bechor, an Arab affairs analyst, assailed the premier for attributing the difficulties in achieving peace with the Arab states to the fact that none of them are democracies and none have commendable human rights records.

"Netanyahu's approach changes the balance of power in the region," he wrote. "While the previous Israeli government related to the Arab world's regimes as allies in the struggle against militant Islamists, Netanyahu presents Israel as being in an opposing position."

A local Palestinian journalist dismissed this assessment saying that the prime minister may have upset the Arab heads of state, but he certainly won points with their citizens. "We want democracy just like the rest of mankind."

There is a certain chronological imbalance: Mubarak has been Egypt's president for the past 15 years; Hussein has been Jordan's king for the past 43 years; Netanyahu has been Israel's prime minister for the past month.

These time frames also have something to do with democracy. Certainly they indicate which of the three leaders is closest to his nation's political state of mind — a fact the two Arab leaders evidently appreciate, and one the *New York Times* and *Ha'aretz* ought to respect as well.

The writer is with The Chicago-Sun Times.



# It's offensive, ignoble and ugly

LEONARD GARMENT

**R**ECENTLY in New Orleans the 14,000 delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention adopted a resolution calling for a major campaign to convert American Jews to Christianity.

The Baptists also appointed a missionary to take charge of the conversion operations, thus supplementing rhetoric with organizational muscle.

The resolution is the latest in a centuries-long line of conversion efforts whose history is so distasteful as to make the Baptists' action profoundly offensive.

Two Jewish interfaith leaders have reacted properly.

Rabbi A. James Rudin of the American Jewish Committee was quoted as having called the resolution a "great setback." Rabbi Leon Klenicki of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith said it made him "very sad," going so far as to add that in light of the Holocaust it would be more appropriate for the Baptists to "talk about a mission to the Christians."

But some reactions have been muted. Privately, prominent Jews I asked about the resolution said they hadn't thought much about it, or that they were used to this sort of thing, or that they would trust the free market in religious ideas to prevent anything bad from happening.

When I talked about the resolution with several Christians who are friendly to Jewish concerns, they did not immediately see the problem.

They reacted to the exhortation as an expression of freedom of speech or as a desire to share the great gift of one's faith. The farthest thing from their minds was associating conversion with animosity or coercive actions toward Jews.

Yet, historically, both the animus and the coercion have been companions of conversionism.

The notion of a special need to convert Jews to Christianity is as old as Christianity itself. In the simple conversionist view, Christianity is the natural, necessary culmination of Jewish history. It makes Judaism unnecessary and obsolete.

The persistence of Jews who choose to remain Jews poses a challenge to this idea of inevitability.

Thus, the argument goes, intensive conversion efforts must be made. The Baptists resolution stands in this tradition.

It doesn't, however, declare that the US's growing Moslem population is in special need of spiritual improvement. Only the Jews merit this honor.

Historically, there has almost invariably been an unpleasant corollary to the conversionist case. If all arguments have been made, and the most powerful and manifestly persuasive appeals to reason have been rejected, the Jews doing the rejecting must be perverse, indeed. Their bad character deserves bad treatment — sometimes forced conversion, fre-

quently worse.

St. Paul, Jewish himself, became exasperated by his difficulties in converting fellow Jews. European Catholicism has the Spanish Inquisition to show as an end product of this cast of mind.

Perhaps the most illustrative and consequential conversion events involved Martin Luther, the founder

of his followers to burn synagogues and Jewish homes. "It is our fault," he wrote, "that we... do not slay them."

In the '30s Julius Streicher, editor of *Der Sturmer*, published choice passages from Luther's missive to encourage German Christians to complete the unfinished task.

Today's Lutheran Church has

for centuries of church hostility toward the Jews.

RENUNCIATIONS of systematic conversion have not come about because of sentimentality. Rather, Christian leaders see that conversionism bespeaks condescension and contempt.

Aggressive evangelism aimed at Jews may seem relatively harmless in a society like ours, which is committed to tolerance. But in the future, here and elsewhere, convictions about others' perceived religious inferiority can easily turn into something ugly. We know this from history.

When Pope John Paul announced plans for the third Christian millennium, he remarked that repentance for Christian hostility toward the Jews would be 1,000 years' work. Baptists have an honorable history when it comes to resisting coercive or overweening religious zeal. It would be appropriate for them to join the Pope in his task rather than act in a way that reminds Jews how necessary his enterprise is.

The writer is a lawyer. (Courtesy of the New York Times)

# Political no-man's-land

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

**T**HE political landscape has changed. Leadership and party have parted ways.

After its electoral defeat, Labor is a party without a leader. After his election victory, Binyamin Netanyahu is a leader without a party.

He and Shimon Peres must share a sense of loneliness.

For Peres, it is the product of a feeling of betrayal, as former political allies and close advisers such as Haim Zadok and Prof. Yehzekel Dror call on him to face the final challenge of departure from political life.

If Peres hangs on to his tenuous role as party chairman, it is not because he senses the strength of his control of the Labor Party, but only because he senses the weakness of Netanyahu's in the Likud.

Peres has no realistic hope of being able to determine Labor's future leadership. The only real power he still holds is the ability to determine when the succession will take place.

This is crucial, as long as there is a chance of a return to power in a unity government. As a leader without a future, Peres is an attractive partner. His political weakness is terminal. He is no real threat. In contrast, his successor will be Labor's candidate in the next general election.

In putting together his government, Netanyahu has hardly displayed a readiness to promote rivals in his own party. He would certainly be unlikely to promote a guaranteed competitor in the opposition. Once the succession in Labor's leadership takes place, the chances of a unity government will radically diminish.

Whether or not a Peres camp still exists, there certainly has been one within the Labor Party. There has never been a Netanyahu camp within the Likud. Netanyahu won the party leadership. He did not capture the party.

In this negative sense, there is a similarity to the position of an American president. In the US, the chief of state is the acknowledged party leader. However, as a

consequence of the American federal system, the local and state organizational base of the party is beyond his control.

In Israel there is no federal system of government, but the Likud, as a party, is a federation of independent sources of power. The loyalty of the party activists is, first of all, to their party faction.

The Likud, in the aggregate, can perform satisfactorily as a vehicle

**It's an odd situation when you have a leader without a party and a party without a leader**

to achieve power. Once in power, however, as the factions pull in different directions, it does badly as a vehicle of policy.

THIS, of course, has its advantages. If Netanyahu controlled the Likud, Bank of Israel Governor Ya'acov Frenkel would be finance minister today. Netanyahu told the Congress in Washington that there was no Hebrew word for "deregulation," but he promised that there would be before his term of office was up. It took barely a week to move from deregulation to market safety nets. He needs another one for Frenkel.

Whatever the outcome of the present stock market crisis, the political consequences for Netanyahu are significant. He conferred on Frenkel his personal support, one of the few political assets that derive from the popular election of the prime minister. A defeat for Frenkel is a blow to the prestige of the prime minister.

The last thing Netanyahu wants is for Dan Meridor, an unquestioned rival, to be in undisputed control of the Treasury. By intervening in the workings of the free

market, Netanyahu has also compromised on a matter of principle, but this is probably less of a worry for him.

From the political point of view, the stock market crisis is only an opening skirmish. A major battle is in the offing over the proposed budget cuts. There is a fundamental conflict between the economic liberalism that Meridor represents and the economic populism of David Levy's Geshet faction.

Power and policy will be joined in open combat.

On the economic liberalism of the free market, Meridor is already making his initial retreat in the stock market crisis. Will he also be prepared to compromise when it comes to the political liberalism of the rule of law?

This is the theme common to the dispute over the closing of Rehov Bar-Ilan on Shabbat and the dispute over the designation of Shas's Rafael Pinhasi, the lifting of whose parliamentary immunity has been requested by the attorney-general, as chairman of the Knesset House Committee, which rules on immunity cases. In both cases, the target will be the authority of the Supreme Court.

On this issue, Netanyahu has already taken sides. Ya'acov Ne'eman, his personal choice for justice minister, who is identified with the National Religious Party and has strong personal ties with the Shas leadership, is an opponent of judicial activism in the political arena. Will Netanyahu support him, at the cost of a fight within his own party?

At that point, the question of a national unity government becomes relevant. Netanyahu will compromise on those issues that least threaten his own political power. Paradoxically, these may prove to be related to the peace process, not to economic liberalism or the authority of the High Court.

It will be easier for Netanyahu to compromise with Peres than with his rivals within his own party.

The writer is a legal and political commentator.

**With their campaign to convert US Jews the Baptists risk sully an honorable history**

of German Protestantism. He began his career with a benign attitude toward the German Jews and confidently set out to convert them.

When he failed, friendliness turned to hatred. Luther wrote that the Jews' rejection of salvation and adherence to error could be explained only as demonic and incorrigible evil. In a famous pamphlet entitled *The Jews and Their Lies*, he described Jews as "children of the devil." He urged

unequivocally repudiated this part of its founder's oeuvre and the conversionism that gave rise to it. Other Christian denominations — the Methodists and Presbyterians — have taken similar stands. So has the Roman Catholic Church.

In November 1994, Pope John Paul II announced that he wanted to mark the third millennium of Christianity with acts of repentance for the church's silence about totalitarian oppression and

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# France sets up crash trauma team

SOBBING family members and friends arrived at France's main airport yesterday for news of passengers aboard TWA Flight 800, which exploded and crashed hours before.

Most relatives were already in tears when they reached Roissy-Charles de Gaulle, clearly aware

of the tragedy. But an elderly woman, coming to meet her son, only learned of the drama when she sought information from attendants after seeing the word "canceled" on the large black arrivals board next to the TWA Flight 800 details.

Francoise Rudetsky, head of

News agencies  
PARIS

the SOS Attentats association which helps victims of terrorist attacks, said airport officials had told her 40 French people were among the 229 passengers and crew, all of whom were feared to have died.

TWA and airport officials set up a special trauma center at Gate 12 in Terminal 1 where the plane was to arrive at 8:15 a.m. and at Rome's Leonardo da Vinci Airport, the final destination of some of the passengers.

Airport and medical workers escorted the relatives, some disheveled with tears in their eyes and others expressionless, through a gauntlet of journalists.

"Help us!" a blond teenage girl in jeans and a black T-shirt said in French through her tears, after she threw herself in the arms of a

woman who appeared to be her mother. Security staffers rushed to help them into the trauma center.

One who left the center spoke agitatedly of his concern.

"It's a brother of ours. He was supposed to be on a two o'clock flight from New York, but we're told he might have been on the eight o'clock flight, said Jean-Claude Bindikou, wearing a bright colored polo shirt and shorts as a relative smoked nervously nearby.

An elderly couple, a young blond woman and a man with white hair and beard were also among those quickly ushered past reporters. Security staff cleared the way for a brunette woman with sunglasses, her head resting on the shoulder of one of the guards. In a letter to President Clinton,

French President Jacques Chirac sent his condolences and expressed his "strong emotion and consternation" about the crash. He noted that both French and American nationals were among the dead.

"I don't doubt that it will be possible to determine the circumstances of this catastrophe," he said.

The trauma team at Charles de Gaulle was "specially trained to meet the people and attend to every one of their needs," said TWA spokesman Gilbert Denemont. So far about 30 people were counseled by midmorning, he said.

Michel Clerel, chief physician for the Paris Airports, said three rooms, staffed by about 50 people, had been set up to receive families and friends.

One contained 30 telephones for their use as well as food and drink, another was a reception

area for the families and the third was for counseling.

"We have to put them in a mental state of waiting... before eventually confirming to them the loss of a loved one," Clerel said. "We get them to talk and discuss their feelings with specialists, then we leave them alone for 10 or 15 minutes and we speak to them again."

More than a dozen Red Cross workers in tan and red uniforms arrived but declined comment. Denemont said he had no information on a group of students from Montoursville High School in Pennsylvania, who were feared to be among the passengers.

Italy's Foreign Ministry quoted TWA as saying a canceled Rome-bound flight had 19 passengers, but the airline declined to say how many took Flight 800. The Italian Embassy in Paris said the 19 took three different flights, but it did not have the breakdown.

## French Jewish community waits anxiously

ELDAD BECK  
PARIS

THE French Jewish community waited anxiously yesterday to find out whether any of its members were on the TWA plane that exploded over Long Island.

Many American and French Jews travel the New York-Paris route, especially during the summer. Moreover, TWA flight No. 800 connected New York and Tel Aviv until recently. According to TWA sources, the connecting flight to Tel Aviv was canceled in January.

But Charles de Gaulle Airport Rabbi Haim Kosia told journalists the connecting flight stopped operating only 10 days ago. "People are passing the time calling New York in order to find out who was on the flight," said Rabbi Pezner, a leader of Habad France.

Among those who arrived at Charles de Gaulle Airport and saw the families was Paris's former chief rabbi Alain Goldmann, who said he was expecting the arrival of French yeshiva students on the TWA 800 flight. TWA sources said 12 kosher meals were ordered by passengers. However, Goldmann declined to confirm the presence of Jewish passengers on the flight.

Most French experts on terrorism are convinced the explosion was caused by terrorists.

During recent weeks, French security services received information on Moslem fundamentalist groups intending to commit terrorist attacks on French soil.

The airport rabbi spent most of the morning hours with the presumed victims' families. "They didn't have any real information about the fate of the passengers - no names, no bodies - and they were forced to rely on hits and pieces of information. It was difficult for them and for us," Rabbi Kosia said.

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved

### Dr. RUSSELL KENNETH EDWARDS

The funeral will take place on Sunday, July 21, 1996. For details, please call 02-634905 or 02-234953.

Deeply mourned by all his family and friends.

Shiva at the home of the deceased, 18 Harav Berlin, Jerusalem.

On the first anniversary of the death of our beloved

### MALKA MAON

(née Fogel)

We will visit her grave on Sunday, July 21 (5 Av), at the Sde Yehoshua Cemetery (Neve David), Haifa. We will meet at 5 p.m. at Gate A.

The Family

With deep sorrow

we announce the sudden passing of

### RUTH EVA GRAUDENZ

in California

Mourning by:

Her husband Rabbi Samuel Graudenz, son Jacob & Ellicia Graudenz and family, daughters Debra, Judy & Rebecca.

Shiva from Monday evening, July 22 until Wednesday morning at 177 Wingate St., Herzliya Pituach.

The unveiling of the monument in memory of

### Rabbi AARON S. GELMAN

will take place on Sunday, July 21, 1996 (5 Monahem Av 5756), 5:30 p.m., at Kfar Nahman Cemetery, Ra'anana

To mark the Shloshim of the passing of our dear

### LILY TOPEROFF

we will meet at the graveside at the Segula cemetery, Petach Tikva on Sunday, July 28, 1996 at 5:45 p.m.

Hakamat Hamatzeva of our revered and loving husband, father, Zayida and brother

### Rabbi SHYA LEBOR

will take place on Sunday, July 21, 1996 (5 Av 5756) at 10:00 a.m. at Eretz Hachaim Cemetery, Beit Shemesh, Shimon Junction.

A bus will leave from 22 Rehov Machal at 9:00 a.m. and from the Binyenol Ha'uma parking lot at 9:15 a.m. The Lebor Family

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved father and grandfather

### ERNEST J. STERN

on Shabbat, June 29, 1996 (12 Tamuz 5756) in Johannesburg, South Africa

a man of dignity, integrity and honor

Deeply mourned and remembered with love and warmth by

His daughter Carol, son-in-law Hymie, and grandchildren Yoni, Avner, Dan and Nehama Goldfus (Jerusalem)

יהו זכור ברוך

The Shealtiel family sends deepest condolences to the mourners of

### DANIEL SHALTIEL

of Tel Aviv

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- Hertha Siegel, Vienna, Austria
- Alex Carasso-Saltiel, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Santiago Saltiel, Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Alice Saltiel-Marshall, Canmore, Alberta, Canada
- Henry & Anne Saltiel, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- Jacques & Freida Saltiel, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
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- Henry Saltiel, Paris, France
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- Martin Best, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
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- Rob & Edith Sealtiel, Almere, Netherlands
- Donald Saltiel, Whakatane, New Zealand
- Charles & Lillette Calamaro, Madrid, Spain
- Roger & Annie Charitel, Geneva, Switzerland
- Maurice & Andrée Saltiel, Geneva, Switzerland
- Shimon Saltiel, Istanbul, Turkey
- Victor Chaltiel, Manhattan Beach, California, USA
- Ed Motola, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA
- Natalie Saltiel, Chicago, Illinois, USA

At this sad time, our thoughts are with his children: with Moshe and Gila Shaltiel-Gracian (Chen) of Riverwoods, Illinois, grandchildren Danny & Laurie, Mairav and Simone, and great-grandchildren Steve and Jason; and Yossi and Naomi Shaltiel of Tel Aviv and grandchildren Ari, Zvika and Eli; and Adina and Michel Saiovi of Mennecey, France, and grandchildren Martine, Sandrine, and Jerome.

## Tragedy evokes eerie Lockerbie echoes

LONDON (Reuters) - The tragic explosion of TWA Flight 800 near New York evoked eerie echoes and painful memories for families of victims of the 1988 Lockerbie disaster that killed 270 people when a bomb exploded on another US jet.

Like the doomed Pan Am 103, the TWA flight blew up in mid-air shortly after taking off. Both involved US airlines and Boeing 747 aircraft. No distress warnings were received from either flight and witnesses to both catastrophes described fireballs in the sky before the jumbo jets crashed.

All 229 people the TWA Paris-bound flight are believed dead. No one from the Pan Am jet lived to tell what really happened nearly eight years ago in the sky over Scotland.

"There are very strong echoes here of Lockerbie," said Pamela Dix, whose brother died in the Lockerbie disaster. "Pan Am is gone. Who would now be considered the flagship carrier for the United States, would that be TWA?"

But regardless of what or who is responsible for yesterday's tragedy the effect on the families and friends of its victims is the same. "They are experiencing a desperate form of shock. The abrupt nature of something like this is so catastrophic your life changes instantly," Dix explained.

"You are catapulted into another world, into another way of dealing with the world. It never finishes. Things never restore themselves to the way they were before."

Jim Swire, who lost a daughter in the Pan Am crash, said the first days, weeks and even months become a blank.

"You go about your business like an automaton. It isn't just at the beginning that the worst anguish comes."

### CRASH

(Continued from Page 2)

The rural Pennsylvania town of Montoursville - population 5,000 - grieved for 16 high school students and five chaperones on Flight 800. The students were bound for Paris to study French.

"They sold candy. They had fundraisers. They worked so hard [to raise money] for this trip," said swimming coach Tina Larson.

"To wake up and lose so many of Montoursville's best and brightest - they're just gone."

"The whole town is in mourning," said Mayor John Doring. "These kids were the best of the best: honor students, athletes, students involved in all types of activities."

Yesterday afternoon, President Bill Clinton led the nation in a moment of silence for the victims, specifically mentioning the Pennsylvania teenagers.

Soon after the plane plummeted, life jackets and rafts appeared on the water, raising hopes for survivors. But the Coast Guard said none of the bodies recovered was wearing life preservers, which suggested that the explosion came without warning.

The Coast Guard had called the search conditions "excellent" with a 70 percent probability of detection. "You got fishing boats with outriggers out there," said Ralph Lenier, a firefighter who raced out in his own boat with two other firefighters.

SARAJEVO (AP) - Turning up the pressure on Radovan Karadzic, America's top envoy to the Balkans yesterday urged the Bosnian Serb leader to step aside or see his party banned from the country's first post-war elections.

Richard Holbrooke's demand added muscle to similar warnings from others seeking to sideline Karadzic because he is a war crimes suspect.

UN spokesman Alexander Ivanko said the mayor of a town in Serb territory threatened to take

UN police and members of the NATO-led Bosnian peace force hostage and kill them if Karadzic is detained as a war crimes suspect.

High-ranking Bosnian Serb officials have distanced themselves from earlier warnings of retaliatory hostage-taking. Still, Ivanko called the threat, made by Mayor Miladin Stefanovic of Ugljevik, "outrageous."

Maj. Brett Boudreau, a spokesman for the peacekeepers, warned the Serbs not to go too far.

## Roast pork new suspect in Japan food poisoning

OSAKA (Reuters) - Roast pork joined eel sushi yesterday as a key suspect in a food poisoning outbreak from school lunches that has made more than 5,500 children ill in western Japan.

As the number of victims from the week-old epidemic kept going up, health authorities added roast pork served with cold noodles as a possible carrier of the O-157 E. coli bacterium which is causing the outbreak.

In the early days of the epidemic, authorities believed they had pinpointed the carrier to a meal of sea eel sushi and soup served to schools in the area on July 5.

But a spokesman for a national task force set up to investigate the outbreak now believes the bacteria might also have been in a second meal distributed to schools one week ago, two days before the first children were stricken.

## Strikes hit London

LONDON (AP) - Striking drivers brought London's subway to a near-halt yesterday, and thousands of mail workers and firefighters also walked out on one of Britain's worst days of disruption in a decade.

The strike on the London Underground, the most effective of three recent strikes, paralyzed 99 percent of the network that carries 1.6 million passengers daily.

Long lines of traffic snarled on the main routes into the capital, and commuters jammed buses. A 24-hour strike by the 130,000-strong Communication Workers Union halted delivery of mail throughout the country. It was the second recent strike in a dispute over working practices in the Royal Mail.

Firefighters struck in the north England county of Derby in protest against planned cuts in services by the local authority.

## Yeltsin assails army corruption

MOSCOW (AP) - President Boris Yeltsin, condemning corruption, slow changes in the army and the brutal hazing of soldiers, said yesterday he will create a Defense Council to deal with reform and strategy.

"We need deep military reform," Yeltsin said as he introduced Russia's new defense minister, Igor Rodionov, to ministry leadership. "We need to establish elementary order within the military. That is our first task."

The induction ceremony took place at the government resort of Barvikha outside Moscow, where Yeltsin is resting before his inauguration for a second term on Aug. 9. Rodionov's appointment was announced Wednesday.

Yeltsin said without elaborating that the new Council would implement "strategic decisions" of the existing Security Council and oversee military reform.

Although its powers and composition were not described, the new council would probably steal some political clout from Alexander Lebed, an ambitious former general recently appointed Security

Council chief.

Lebed, who attended yesterday's ceremony, had opposed the idea, saying the two councils would duplicate each other.

But Rodionov, seen as Lebed's protege, took a different stance yesterday, saying the Defense Council was "necessary in order to give the army a new breath."

Since his appointment last month, Lebed had engineered the dismissal of the previous defense minister, Pavel Grachev, and several Grachev loyalists in the ministry. While Lebed did not get the broad powers he had sought over economic and social issues, he managed to push through Rodionov's appointment - a step widely expected to boost his influence.

Yeltsin praised Rodionov yesterday as a bright officer with wide-ranging command experience, but he was much less flattering about the military as a whole.

"Corruption is corroding the officer corps like rust. We cannot stop the disgusting weapons trade from military depots. We cannot get rid of hazing among the soldiers,"

Yeltsin said.

The Russian press is filled with reports of military corruption, some involving defense ministry leaders and Grachev.

Corruption is believed to be even more widespread among lower-ranking officers. The brutal hazing of new recruits has long been a norm.

Rodionov, previously head of the General Staff Military Academy, pledged to fight army corruption and strengthen the military.

"The army's prestige cannot be maintained if it is corrupt, especially if its leaders are."

"The army should not be a burden for the country and a scarecrow to the world community," Rodionov added.

Yeltsin said "not everything is going smoothly" with his orders to make the army a smaller, volunteer force by the year 2000.

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July 19, 1996

# NEWS IN FOCUS

Friday, July 19, 1996

## IDF ponders how to deal with PA

Researchers and officers say the IDF should balance the political system in negotiations, writes Steve Rodan

JUST last year, Uzi Dayan was foreign minister Shimon Peres's favorite when he was head of IDF Planning and a key player in the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations and forging the resulting agreements on redeployment.

As he assumed his new job as head of IDF Central Command, Dayan recall the parting words of his predecessor, Maj.-Gen. Ian Biran: "Now, you can have the broth that you cooked."

Today, Peres and his government are gone and Dayan is left with a command that is facing an increasingly restless Palestinian security force. As senior officers put it, the major-general has forged a new set of priorities.

"As Peres's man in the negotiations, Dayan shared the idea that the negotiations should be advanced," one IDF source says. "Now, as head of central command, he is demonstrating a much more deliberate approach."

Prime Minister Binjamin Netanyahu hasn't asked yet, but the IDF in the post-Labor government era has a lot to say about how the Palestinian-Israeli talks should proceed. Military sources say the general staff shares Netanyahu's cautious approach but doesn't want an end to the negotiations or a halt in the redeployment agreed to by Peres.

"The IDF's role has been to balance the political system," says Maj.-Gen. (res.) Avraham Rotem, now a senior researcher at Bar-Ilan University's Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies. "During the previous government, the IDF served as a brake so it shouldn't move too quickly with the peace process. Now, the IDF is doing the same thing with the new government, but from the opposite direction."

Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak played a major role in the early negotiations with the Palestinians. Dayan took over in the later stages. Both men are said to recognize the value of an agreement with the Palestinians, as flawed as they might think it to be.

"I took a while for the IDF to come to terms with Oslo," a senior officer says. "Now that we have come to grips with it, we don't want to throw it all away."

With IDF plans in the territories built around the prospect of Palestinian cooperation, senior military officers want a viable PA. In recommendations to the

Defense Ministry, the army has proposed increasing the number of Palestinian laborers allowed to work in Israel by up to 60,000. Quietly, the IDF says the closure has been ineffective, particularly around Jerusalem, where thousands of Palestinians illegally enter the city to find work. Those caught are quickly released, both for legal reasons as well as for a lack of prison space.

The IDF has also recommended increasing the number of Palestinian trucks and taxis allowed in Israel, as well as issuing more permits for Palestinians to seek medical treatment in the country.

THE COMMITMENT to future implementation of the accords is not shared, however, by junior officers, particularly those in the field. At staff meetings, many of them are recommending that measures such as redeployment be delayed for as long as possible.

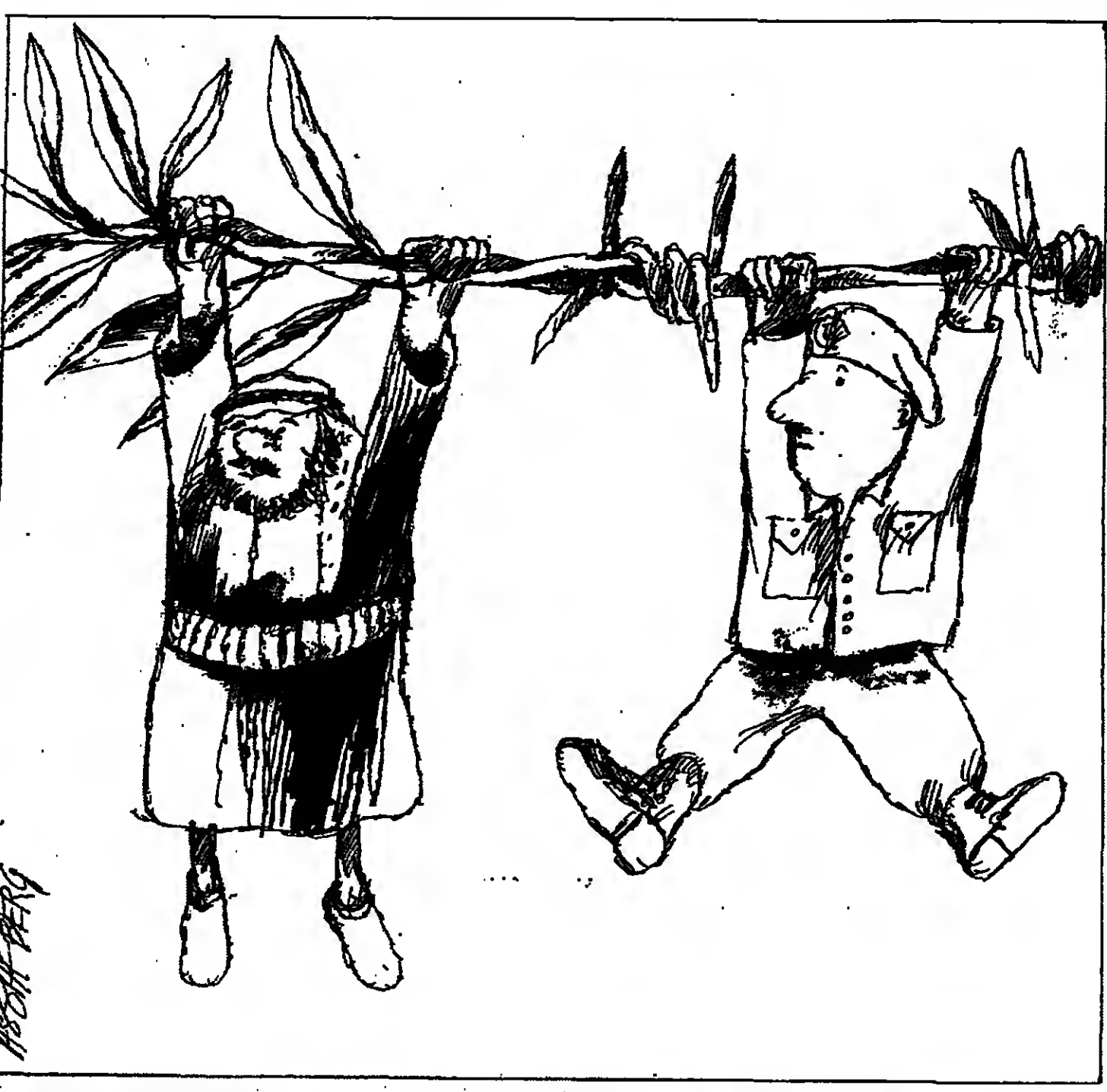
Both senior and junior officers agree that Netanyahu should push the Palestinians to live up to their agreements. Senior officers, including Dayan, feel that the Palestinian Authority shares the assessment that the Palestinians try at every turn to ignore or bend the rules of conduct in the territories.

For the IDF, the thousands of PA security men brandishing sub-machine guns and supported by armored personnel carriers and a growing fleet of helicopters have become a force to reckon with. The fear is not that the estimated 50,000 Palestinian gunmen, including PA officers and terrorists - will invade Israel. Rather, the IDF is concerned that if Israel is attacked by an Arab state, the PA will launch hit-and-run attacks in the territories with the aim to strike at settlements and slow down Israeli mobilization.

"For years, our threat assessment has been of a Jordanian attack," a senior officer says. "Now, peace with Jordan has changed that assessment and the focus is on the thousands of Palestinian soldiers located right next to us."

Take terrorism. Senior IDF officers acknowledge that PA head Yasser Arafat launched a serious drive against Hamas terrorists following a wave of bus bombings in Israel in March. But within weeks, they say, the effort began to wane.

Today, once again, they say,



Arafat is releasing Hamas suspects and slowing the offensive against Islamic militants. At the same time, the PA is doing nothing to capture members of terrorist cells believed to be operating against the IDF.

One example: A squad of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine has been operating for about eight months in Bethlehem's Debaish refugee camp. IDF sources say the gang has shot several times at the Israeli police jeep participating in the joint patrol with the Palestinians. So far, the PA has not arrested anybody.

Another example: A Hamas gang operating in the Halhoul area, north of Hebron, is believed to be responsible for several drive-by shootings that killed four

Israelis in the last year. Once again, the IDF says the PA has not made strenuous efforts to capture the gunmen.

Instead, military sources say, the PA security force is acting against suspected Israeli collaborators. This has hurt Israeli intelligence efforts in foiling the plans and discovering the location of terrorists.

"There are two kinds of cases," an IDF source says. "In one type, we know where the terrorists are and tell the PA and nothing gets done. In the second case, we don't know because we don't have sufficient intelligence."

The IDF also wants to crack down on what it asserts are widespread Palestinian violations in Area B, the part of Judea and Samaria where the PA has only

"Not only hasn't he decided yet on anything," a government source says, "he even hasn't expressed his views on these issues."

STILL, THE IDF isn't a monolith. Senior officers disagree over when the army should redeploy in Hebron. Some, like Shahak and Dayan, who opposed a redeployment prior to the Israeli elections, now want the IDF to move quickly to encourage the PA to take over the city and fight terrorism. Other officers want the IDF to wait and flush out Hamas terrorists before the PA moves in and provides them with another asylum.

Military sources describe this as the classic case of the difference between the officer in headquarters armed with his plans and the field officer who learns the situation through daily experience with the Palestinians.

"The spillover of the argument on the level of commanders reveals the crisis of confidence between the two sides," writes an officer identified only as Lt.-Col. Kobi in the IDF magazine *Motza'ot*. "IDF commanders have a difficult time accepting the Palestinian withdrawal from agreements achieved and their apparent insensitivity to the new security situation."

But both groups of officers agree that Hebron has become a hotbed of Hamas terrorism waiting to explode. Shahak and Dayan, IDF sources say, want the Netanyahu government to make redeployment in the city linked to a PA offensive against terrorists in the area.

"Hamas is lying low but it is constantly testing us in the field," a security source says.

"Their activists are studying our responses so when they are ordered to attack they will be effective."

Rotem, the Besa Center researcher, says the key figure in translating the IDF recommendations into action will be Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

A member of the general staff and head of all three IDF area commands until last year, Mordechai knows virtually every senior and mid-ranking officer in the field.

The concern of those such as Shahak and Dayan is that Mordechai will ignore them and accept the recommendations of their subordinates on such issues as Hebron and further redeployment.

Rotem warns against considering such an approach in the interest of preserving the integrity of the general staff.

"There is no alternative to the work and planning of the general staff," he says. "The position of junior officers could be very respected, but their vision is limited. It doesn't mean that the junior officers aren't correct. But it does mean that the general staff can't be bypassed."

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Matthew Lazar, Conductor  
*Amud Ha'eish - Pillar of Fire* - Epitaph for Yitzhak Rabin (by invitation)

**Sunday, July 28, 8:30 p.m.,**  
**Henry Crown, Jerusalem Theater**  
*Hallel Lirushalayim* - concert of traditional Hazzanut, featuring ten world-renowned Hazzanim, with the Ra'anana Symphonette Orchestra and Choir  
Menashe Lev-Ran, Conductor  
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**Tuesday, July 30, 8:30 p.m.,**  
**Sherover Hall, Jerusalem Theater**  
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# Were they well taught by their grandmothers?

A few years ago, when MK Rabbi Moshe Ze'ev Feldman (Agudat Yisrael) was asked why he felt qualified to chair the Knesset Finance Committee, he gave the stunningly

Committee, for example, could be considered a good match - of sorts. This is the committee which decides whether or not to lift an MK's immunity. Few can compete with Pinhasi's experience in this field.



House committee head Raphael Pinhasi has plenty of experience in lifting immunity.

simple answer: "My grandmother taught me everything I need to know."

That was in the 12th Knesset. The reasoning behind some of the appointments of committee heads in this, the 14th Knesset, is equally valid. The appointment of MK Raphael Pinhasi (Shas) to chair the Knesset House



Sabra Naomi Blumenthal, out a new immigrant, heads the absorption panel.

The first time he went through this procedure, to face charges of fraud and falsifying documents, was in 1993. Although the committee and plenum agreed to lift his immunity, Pinhasi filed a High Court petition and a revote was taken on the grounds that the original plenum vote had not met the rules of due process. In the revote, Pinhasi's immunity remained intact.

Now Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair has asked the House to lift Pinhasi's immunity again to face the same charges. And Pinhasi has again appealed the request.

Pinhasi's appointment has been challenged in the High Court by the Movement for Quality Government and by Meretz, and he is willing to make one concession: "Even though a legal opinion I received indicated there is no reason I should not chair the commi-



Maxim Levy's qualification for labor and social affairs head is a stint as Lod mayor.

tee - even during debates on lifting political immunity - I decided to announce my intention at this stage not to do so, in order to prevent slanderous talk," he says.

Compared with the Pinhasi case, interest in the qualifications of the new chairman of the Knesset Interior and Environment Committee Sallah Tarif (Labor) is

## The 12 MKs who chair Knesset committees are not necessarily experts in their fields, but that doesn't worry them, Liat Collins writes

understandably muted. His last position as deputy interior minister made him a natural candidate for the committee chair. And his opening speech, in which he promised to stress environmental issues, was considered promising by conservation groups. Animal rights organizations, on the other hand, were more cynical in view of the fact that Tarif's immunity has been lifted to face charges of illegal hunting.



Interior and environment panel head Sallah Tarif isn't worried about illegal hunting charges.

Neither Knesset legal adviser Zvi Inbar nor Tarif seems worried by the pending charges. Inbar says this is not "a crime of moral turpitude. Tarif had expressed regret and asked his immunity be lifted to face charges, admitting he had done wrong. I think we can take this into account," Tarif says he believes the whole episode to be behind him.

Inbar downplayed a suggestion that hunting without a firearm license while holding a top position in the ministry in charge of weapons licensing is like driving without a driver's license while serving in a key post in the Transportation Ministry. "These things happen," he says. "We're all human."

PINHASI AND Tarif are not the only two who fear convictions of the nonpolitical kind. Under a rotation system devised by the Labor faction to give as many of its MKs as possible a chance in the top spots, MK Avi Yehezkel is due to replace Eli Goldschmidt as head of the Knesset Economics Committee. That's if he doesn't go to jail first.

Yehezkel is facing corruption charges related to the Histadrut. With these MKs and others in mind, Michael Eitan (Likud), acting head of the Knesset House Committee, this week pushed for an amendment to the House rules which would enable MKs to prevent colleagues from holding key positions while facing serious charges.

"The amendment is necessary to renew public confidence in the elected leaders," he says. "But we must remember to balance this by abiding by the principle that a person is considered innocent until proven guilty; simply being allegedly involved in a crime does not disqualify someone from holding a post in the future."

Eli Ben-Menahem (Labor) can relate to that. He is expected to be appointed to chair the Knesset War on Drugs Committee this week. In the last Knesset he went through the harrowing experience of having his political immunity lifted to



War-on-drugs chief Eli Ben-Menahem has fought against the spread of substance abuse.



Economics panel chairman Eli Goldschmidt has experience with kibbutz industries.



Law committee head Shaul Yahalom may have a BA but isn't a lawyer.



Education committee chairman Emanuel Zissman isn't an educator but is a father of 4.

face assault charges. After several emotionally draining hearings in the Knesset House Committee, during which Ben-Menahem was moved to tears, the attorney-general decided to drop the charges.

His career has recovered from the hiccup and he is considered a well-qualified candidate for the drugs committee as he spent several years as a resident activist in Tel Aviv's blue-collar Kfar Shalem



Foreign affairs and defense head Uzi Landau is one of the few leak-proof MKs.

neighborhood and chairman of the Tel Aviv Neighborhoods Forum, where he fought against the spread of substance abuse.

KIBBUTZNIK AND lawyer Eli Goldschmidt (Labor) is a previous chairman of the Knesset House Committee. This year he is chairing the economics committee responsible for "just about all the issues that have transferred to Arik Sharon's [National Infrastructure] Ministry and a bit more."

Former justice minister David Liba'i told the last Knesset that it is essential for a lawyer to head the law committee, but he made an exception for Dedi Zucker (Meretz). Four years later, it is easy to forget that Zucker does not have formal legal training, he so took to the committee's work.

While educator Yahalom is in charge of the law committee, the education committee is chaired by Emanuel Zissman (The Third Way), whose qualifications for the post include being the father of four children and having previously headed the Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee. He was also an active Jerusalem councillor for many years.

His old committee has been taken over by Naomi Blumenthal (Likud). Initially it seems strange that with a party of immigrants holding seven Knesset seats, it is a native-born Israeli who heads the committee in charge of absorption. The reason is the unwritten rule which says the same party can't hold both a ministry and the

Knesset committee which monitors it, ruling out Yisrael Ba'aliya from the committee chair.

Little in Blumenthal's past points to this particular seat. She lists her career in the Knesset's Who's Who as "businesswoman." Her BA is in criminology and political science but when she talks of "left wing" and "right wing" she is as likely to be referring to stage directions.

A graduate of the Beit Zvi Stage School, Blumenthal was a founding member of the Beersheba Theater. Before joining the Knesset in 1992 she was an active member of the Israel Women's Network. Possible criticism of her holding the absorption post has been deflected by the fact her parliamentary activities have been marked by a focus on social-welfare issues which are common to immigrants and oldtimers. Also, several diverse movements pushed for her to be Knesset speaker - a job which, she confesses, didn't interest her.

Blumenthal was considered for the labor and social affairs committee but that was taken by



Finance panel head Avraham Ravitz says to ask his enemies whether he's suitable for the job.

Coalition critic Ran Cohen is in a natural post - head of the state comptroller's committee.

Maxim Levy (Gesher). Among his qualifications are being brother of Foreign Minister and Gesher leader David Levy and a long stint as mayor of Lod. He believes that chairing a municipality is a good enough preparation for preparing a Knesset committee.

UZI LANDAU (Likud), an old-timer in the Knesset, is better suited to his position as chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee than his resume suggests. He has degrees in planning and transportation from the Technion and MIT (where he reportedly discovered the potential of student Binyamin Netanyahu).

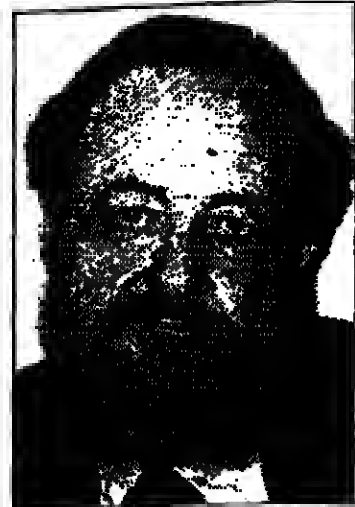
His military career was spent in the Paratroop Corps, which he left with the rank of major. In a Knesset brimming with generals and a couple of former chiefs of staff, Landau is not the MK with the highest military rank, but his Knesset career includes stints on the foreign affairs and defense committee and as chairman of its subcommittee on secret services.

Landau remains secretive and is a little too well-suited for the position as far as parliamentary reporters are concerned. He is one of those few MKs who is leak-proof. Landau has a secret of his own. He is a closet environmentalist. He is a board member of the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, which would have liked to see him as environment minister.

MK Col. (res.) Ran Cohen (Meretz) tried for the foreign affairs and defense committee when the chairman's position became vacant at the end of the

13th Knesset. He didn't get it then and he hasn't got it now. But he has been given the chair of the state comptroller's committee.

Before reaching the Knesset in 1984, his public career included a period as chairman of the CRM



Finance panel head Avraham Ravitz says to ask his enemies whether he's suitable for the job.

facoon within the Histadrut, and as chairman of a nonprofit organization for drug rehabilitation. Apart from experience as an active member on several Knesset committees, Cohen has a natural aptitude for the job. "There is nothing Ran likes better than to criticize the coalition and this is the ideal spot," said one observer.



Yael Dayan, one of nine female MKs, heads the status-of-women panel.


ment is the head of the committee for the status of women, although given the number of female MKs (nine) the choice was not too difficult. The committee is currently chaired by women's rights champion Yael Dayan (Labor) who will be replaced later by Marina Solodkin (Yisrael Ba'aliya) under a rotation agreement.

All the committee chairpersons have one thing in common: They complain of a lack of funds for the areas under their jurisdiction. Which brings us back to money and the finance committee, oow chaired by Avraham Ravitz (United Torah Judaism).

Ravitz is a rabbi and educator by training and a politician by nature. He laughs when reminded of Feldman's description of how his grandmother had prepared him for the post but can't think of any better reason.

I don't think I'm the right person to ask whether or not I'm suitable for the job," he says. "I've been a committee member in the past but being chairman is a whole different story. I can only say I'm trying very hard to learn it and I discuss issues with the committee members. If you want to know whether or not I'm suitable I suppose you should ask them. But if you want the real answer, ask my enemies."

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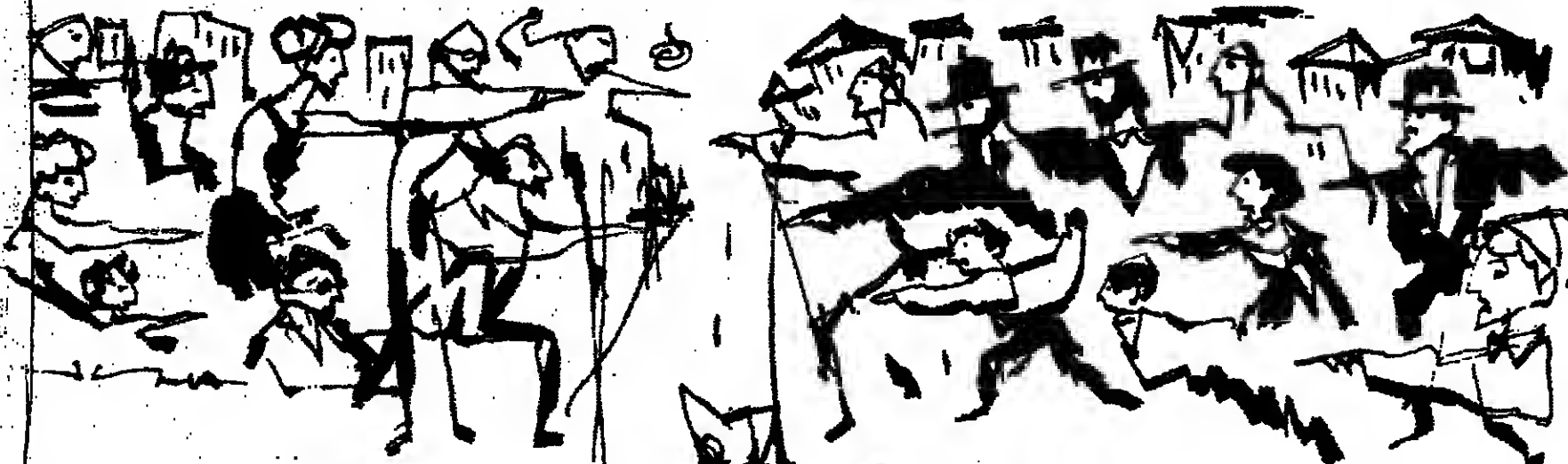
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July 19, 1996

# Conflict on Rehov Bar-Ilan: Shabbat, but no shalom



## Seasonal issues

The long hours of Shabbat in the summer months provide an opportunity for haredim to take to the streets with their demands, Haim Shapiro writes

SUMMER is the perfect time for haredi demonstrations, according to Prof. Menachem Friedman, an expert in haredi society.

On Shabbat, there are the long hours after dinner, after the Shabbat nap, when everyone "parades" up and down the street. It is a time when everyone goes out, and if something is happening, everyone wants to see what is going on, says the Bar-Ilan University sociologist.

But haredim don't always demonstrate in the summer; it only happens when there is an issue concerning the haredim in the public eye, he says.

The question of whether Jerusalem's Bar-Ilan Street should be closed to traffic on Shabbat is a perfect issue. The hundreds of families living in the large apartment houses which flank it on either side are all haredim. For years, they have been demanding the closure of the road. Opponents have maintained that the four-lane highway is a major artery, the link between such neighborhoods as Ramat Eshkol and French Hill and the Tel Aviv highway.

Last week, Transportation Minister Yitzhak Levy announced a compromise whereby the street would be closed during synagogue services, but open during other hours. At that time, Yehuda Meshi-Zahav, "operations officer" of the Eda Haredit, said there would be no demonstrations, even if Meretz held its own demonstration, with convoys of cars driving up and down the street.

However, following a petition by secular activists, the High Court of Justice issued an injunction keeping the street from being closed, and the haredi demonstrators came out in full force.

An estimated 10,000 demonstrators threw stones and garbage, including dirty diapers, at cars and police. Ten people were arrested and the haredi leaders charged the police with brutality.

Friedman says Levy's compromise might have been accepted by the haredim before last week's disturbances, but it is doubtful if it would be accepted now, especially with the newfound power of the religious parties following the last elections.

"It is clear that the haredim are now on top. You could have closed the street with peace [only] during services, but not now," he says.

THE SUMMER haredi demonstrations in Jerusalem began in the 1950s over the issue of a public swimming pool with mixed swimming, says Hebrew University sociologist, Prof. Moshe Lissak, an expert on Israeli society. At that time, he recalls, it was kibbutz activists who clashed with the haredim. Now, it is Meretz supporters.

In the 1950s, he says, the haredim saw themselves as under threat from a socialist government out to destroy them. However, he adds, over the years the haredim grew demographically and conquered area after area. As soon as they became the majority, they tried to establish the rules about who could come and go, especially on Shabbat, but not just on Shabbat.

Even Bar-Ilan Street, Lissak says, was previously a street with a mixed, mostly traditional population. But the secular and even the non-haredi traditional residents left, because life was not easy for them. On the one hand,

he says, they were subject to what he describes as "moderate physical pressure" not to use their cars, radios or TVs on Shabbat. On the other hand, the haredim were willing to pay higher prices for the flats there.

Lissak says that as long as the haredim continue to grow and believe that the government is backing them, they will not let up the pressure. It is only a matter of time, he says, before they continue to expand. On the secular side, on the other hand, there is only a small nucleus of demonstrators. They are not organized around yeshivot or the courts of Hassidic rebbes like the haredim and they do not have the strength to continue the struggle for long periods. Lissak says that Meretz, for example, can get supporters to vote for it, but it has trouble bringing people out to demonstrate, especially when there is an element of physical danger involved.

Lissak says both sides now clearly want to set the cultural and geographical borders between the haredi and the secular areas.

As Lissak sees it, the secular public would rather circumvent the haredim than face them in a confrontation. Dozens of streets have been closed in Jerusalem, he says, and people put up with it. If the haredim are willing to put up with pubs or movies open on Friday night, it is because they view such activities as "distant," even if the distance is only three or four kilometers.

Indeed, the area around Mea She'arim is a semi-autonomous enclave where not only would no one dream of driving on Shabbat, but women will be careful about whether they are wearing "immodest" clothing.

"As a citizen I am not happy about it, but as a sociologist I see it as part of the political culture of Israel," Lissak says.

Friedman, on the other hand, says that eventually Bar-Ilan Street will be closed on Shabbat, but he does not see that as an indication of haredi encroachment. On the contrary, he says, for all intents and purposes Jerusalem has become a secular city during the past few years, just as Israel has become a secular country.

In the rest of the country, many of the big malls are open on Shabbat, and even Jerusalem has undergone a secular revolution, he says. Friedman says that Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai of Shas will no doubt try to turn back the clock, but the degree to which he will succeed is an open question.

As for the secular demonstrators in Bar-Ilan Street, Friedman says they are partially motivated by the recent election results, which they see as a victory for the religious parties.

There is also the opportunity to have a bit of adventure without encountering any real danger, he says. By comparison with the intifada or the recent riots in Northern Ireland, he says, what is happening in Bar-Ilan Street is very peaceful.

Friedman recalls seeing television footage of secular activists rolling down their car windows and shouting "shabbos" at the haredi demonstrators, something they would not dare to do in a really dangerous situation. The media may talk of violence, he says, but we should keep a sense of proportion.

"Jerusalem isn't Nablus and it isn't Londonderry," he says.

## Yekutieli: The road to a 'new Teheran'

BILL HUTMAN



Yekutieli: Miller has a list of 20 mile roads to close.

JERUSALEM will be taking a major step toward becoming a "new Teheran" if the city's haredi leaders succeed in closing Bar-Ilan Street on Shabbat. That is the opinion of Yehuda Yekutieli, the Jerusalem councillor and Meretz faction leader in the city who, in the past decade, has led the base of the city's secular residents against the demands of the haredim.

Yekutieli and many of those who want to keep the street open on Shabbat see the struggle in terms of the city's "cultural wars." In the 1980s, the battles were over the opening of Jerusalem's cinemas, clubs and pubs, which were all closed on Shabbat. Yekutieli says these battles were won, but that there is still raging.

"In the early 1980s, 15,000 [Jerusalem] youths were going to Tel Aviv every weekend. But that phenomenon is finished. There are cinemas open on Friday night in Jerusalem, discos, theater, even music on Shabbat - you have whatever you want. In all these battles, the secular population won."

Today the fruits of those victories are being threatened, according to the 49-year-old Yekutieli.

"Now the wheel is going backwards, and fast," he says. "Jerusalem is the city that symbolizes of us in Paris, and in England, London... Jerusalem is our face to the outside world, Jewish and non-Jewish."

"The question is whether what Jerusalem is showing the world today - rational, cultural, of the 20th century, and looking forward toward the 21st century; or what is showing harks back

to the Middle Ages. "The question is whether we want to take a big step toward Teheran, or to continue in the direction of the Western world."

In Yekutieli's view, closing Bar-Ilan Street would be a victory for religious fanaticism. As for the suggested prayer-times closure, he says at best this would leave the road open for only a few hours, and at worst it would be the first step towards the road's closure.

Haredi leaders have already declared that they won't be satisfied with the partial closure, according to Yekutieli. "[Deputy Mayor] Haim Miller has already declared that he has a list of 20 more roads he wants closed," including the highway that passes the new haredi neighborhood, Shuafat Ridge, that is meant to be an alternative to Bar-Ilan Street. "If Bar-Ilan Street were not a thoroughfare for 60,000 residents of north Jerusalem and another 60,000 residents of south Jerusalem, I would not oppose it being closed."

Yekutieli says the figures presented by closure proponents showing that Bar-Ilan Street is little used on Shabbat are farcical - drivers are afraid to travel on the road because of haredi stone-throwers. "Today, many drivers prefer to add half an hour to their trips and use other roads, so they or their kids won't get their heads cracked by a stone."

"In a democratic state they don't allow people to throw stones on a road for [all this time], and make drivers frightened to travel there. If the stone-throwing were in an Arab neighborhood, you can be sure that by now they wouldn't be throwing even pebbles there."

Jerusalem police chief Cmdr. Arye Amit charged Yekutieli with provoking the haredim by organizing a motorcade that drove up and down Bar-Ilan Street last Saturday afternoon.

Yekutieli says the motorcade was not meant as a provocation, and that tomorrow's protest is to be held several meters away from the street. "For the past decade, all the acts of violence have been from the haredi side," he adds.

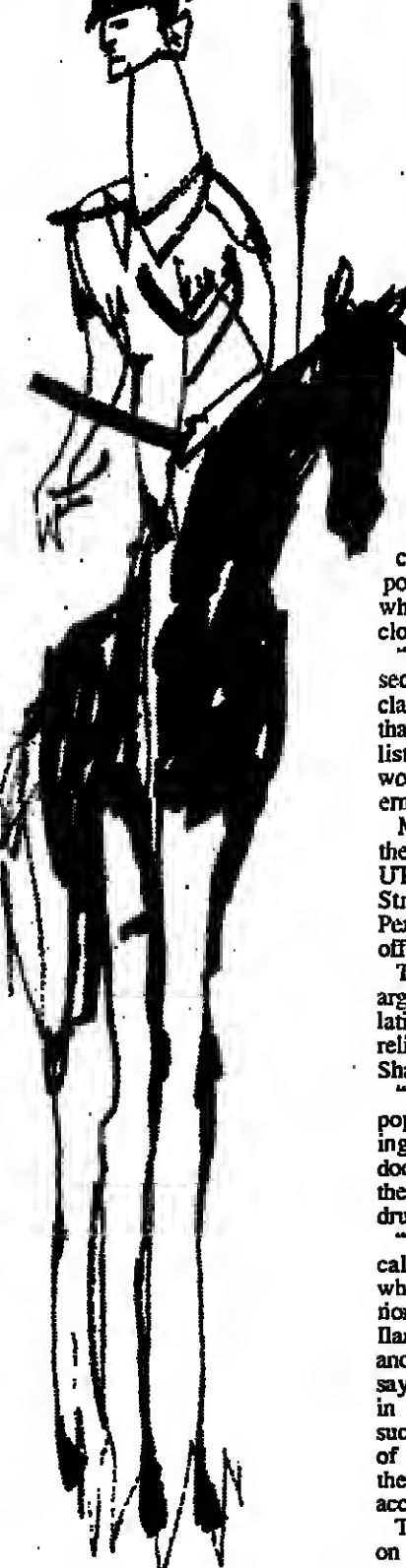
Yekutieli says the best way to resolve the controversy is to build several pedestrian overpasses that would allow haredi residents to cross the road undisturbed by Shabbat traffic.

"It is clear that we have to live together in this city, and that life here is filled with compromises," he says.

The problem is that, at least for now, the haredim reject his compromise, and he and other secular leaders reject theirs.

## Miller: Jerusalem must remain holy

BILL HUTMAN



THE haredi demand that Bar-Ilan Street be closed is spirited by the desire to ensure Jerusalem remain a "holy city," rather than just another city in the world plagued by crime and debauchery.

That, according to Jerusalem Deputy Mayor Haim Miller, who heads the United Torah Judaism faction on the city council, sums up the haredi position on the controversy over whether the street should be closed on Shabbat.

"I don't have plans to disturb the secular population," Miller claimed, in reaction to charges that this was just the first in a long list of actions haredi leaders would demand from the new government.

Miller is quick to point out that the Labor Party also promised UTJ that it would close Bar-Ilan Street if party leader Shimon Peres was reelected. Labor Party officials confirmed this.

The 33-year-old deputy mayor's argument is that most of the population - both religious and non-religious - support closure during Shabbat prayer times.

"I am certain that most of the population in Jerusalem is counting on us to ensure that Jerusalem doesn't become like Tel Aviv, that there won't be prostitution and drugs," Miller says.

"The [city] coalition agreement calls for the closure of roads where 100 percent of the population is haredi," Miller adds. Bar-Ilan Street is 100 percent haredi, and therefore should be closed, he says. There are a number of roads in other haredi neighborhoods, such as Sha'arei Hessed, and parts of Mekor Baruch, that also meet the Shabbat closure criteria, according to Miller.

The present coalition agreement on Shabbat road closing "is an exact copy of the agreement under Teddy Kolek, when about 300 roads were closed, including major thoroughfares," Miller says.

He strongly denies allegations haredi leaders will demand the closure of the highway that runs by the new haredi neighborhood at Shuafat Ridge, or that the haredim see the Shabbat prayer-times closure of Bar-Ilan Street as the first stage towards the road's complete closure.

"We aren't going to touch the plate of the secular population," Miller says. "On the contrary, we have to do everything to bring more Jews to live here."

The issue of the fleeing of secular Jews from Jerusalem in recent years is a particularly sore point with Miller. He says haredim have been wrongly blamed. "Not a single secular person left because of



Miller: 'Evil' Yekutieli is creating tension.

religious subjects. They left because of economic and housing problems," he claims.

Miller blames Meretz for "scaring people" into believing that the haredim have outrageous demands in Jerusalem, when all they want is to ensure a peaceful life in their neighborhoods. He calls Meretz City Councillor Omer Yekutieli an "evil person" for "creating tension at Bar-Ilan Street," and "a hypocrite" for allegedly not blocking Shabbat road closures when he was in the city government.

Miller also blames the media for "exaggerating" the size of haredi protests at Bar-Ilan Street and the number of stonings, saying the protests were smaller than reported, and there were "only one or two stone-throwers."

"I strongly condemn such behavior. I don't understand it, and I think that it is criminal," he says of the stone-throwers. "But in every community there are delinquent youths who are looking for action."

As for the secular residents who use Bar-Ilan Street, Miller calls for their understanding, while downplaying their suffering. "Please, just drive a different way and take an extra two, three, or maybe five minutes, so that we can live as Jews side by side in Jerusalem," he says.

Miller promises quiet from the haredi side until the High Court ruling on the Transportation Ministry decision to close Bar-Ilan Street during a total of seven hours of Shabbat prayer times. But if the court rules against the closure, the haredim are likely to file their own petition, he says. "I can't accept that in Tel Aviv they close a road [Dizengoff] on Shabbat for pubs and cafes, while in Jerusalem they won't allow a road to be closed because of prayer."

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# Buenos Aires's recovery helped by its 'twin' city

**T**HE news last weekend that 11 Buenos Aires police officers have been arrested and six more are being sought for aiding those behind the 1994 car-bomb attack on the city's Jewish center, serves as a stark reminder: that exactly two years after the worst act against Diaspora Jews since the Second World War, no one has been brought to justice.

The attack, on the building of the Argentine Jewish Mutual Aid Association (AJMA), killed 86 and injured around 300. Most of those killed were Jewish professionals and support staff, dealing the community an organizational blow as well as a human tragedy.

Hopes of finding the perpetrators have been raised before. Last year, in a move that eventually came to nothing, a judge said nine army officers detained for questioning may have sold the explosives to whoever was responsible. Few expect much to come of this new development, and that the killers are still at large only adds to the community's woes.

But out of this catastrophe one hopeful and potentially groundbreaking development has emerged, one that could herald an ideological sea change in Israel's relations with the Diaspora. In the first project of its kind, rather than try and encourage aliyah, an Israeli governmental body is officially helping to rebuild a Diaspora community.

Through its social services department, and with the full backing of Mayor Ronni Milo, the municipality of Tel Aviv, which is twinned with Buenos Aires, is offering technical and professional

**Two years after the Argentine bombing, Tel Aviv is lending a helping hand. Tom Gross reports**

know-how and support to reconstruct, improve even, the workings of Buenos Aires's Jewish community. Ze'ev Friedman, director of Tel Aviv social services, calls it "a historical breakthrough."

"Traditionally the relationship between Israelis and our Jewish brothers abroad has not been a partnership on an equal level. We came to discussions as an underdog and asked for money. We said Israel is a developing country, please help. Now we are rewriting the arrangement."

"In most cases when towns are twinned it's merely a symbolic act. 'Not so now,' says Friedman. "This is no ritual, but something tangible, something practical. We used the experience we gained after the No. 5 bus bomb [in Dizengoff Street in October 1994]."

Nevertheless, it seems that even in an age many label as post-Zionist, a guiding hand is still needed from the country that continues to have the world's largest Jewish population, the United States.

The Buenos Aires project is a triangular partnership, with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee giving the cash, while Tel Aviv provides the know-how.

Friedman, who visited Buenos Aires last year, says he was surprised to find how advanced Israel

now is. "The computerization in Buenos Aires, for example, is far behind Tel Aviv," he noted.

There are three tracks to the relationship: "crisis intervention" (coping with the practical and psychological consequences of an attack); social technology (dealing with elderly people, the handicapped, orphans, etc.); and voluntarism.

Friedman says that "No real system of voluntarism existed in Argentina before. Offering time to maintain education, culture and social networks is now vital to the community's survival. Because of the dictatorship, people were afraid to do anything before and never developed the mentality of popular participation."

This spring, a team of Tel Aviv social workers set up a substructure for voluntary networks in the six main Argentinean Jewish communities.

BUT A lot remains to be done. Not only were lives lost, but the building itself, an elegant, sturdily built, seven-story brick-and-marble building which for 50 years had served as the cornerstone of the largest Jewish community in Latin America, was mourned.

The Argentinean Jewish poet Eliahu Toker wrote after the attack, "Not only people died that July day - a building was assassinated... the atmosphere, the shades and phantoms that dwell in the rooms... at

Pasteur 633."

Equally irreplaceable were the 100-year old archives of the community (which had not yet been saved on microfilm and computer as had been planned), together with a Jewish library brought from Vilna, and other literary treasures, all lost in the rubble.

Reconstruction of the actual building is still not complete, and the community continues to work out of temporary offices. A cornerstone for a new community center on the same spot where the old one stood was laid last year, a slab of white marble inscribed in Spanish and Hebrew with a verse from the Bible.

"The Argentinians take things slowly, it's a mentality of *mañana*. We had new buildings within 18 months of Scud attacks," says Friedman.

In the past, Israel has been accused of not pulling its weight in the Diaspora outside the context of Zionist or aliyah-related work. But as Israel has established relations with more and more countries in the last four years, it is also now in the process of reappraising its relations with the Diaspora.

There is an increasing recognition of the important role Diaspora communities can play for Israel in fostering closer links and contacts with other governments, and also in forging economic contacts.

"Although the ideology is that all Jews should come to Israel, the reality is that 200,000 Jews remain in Buenos Aires," says Friedman. "They are in economic and psychological crisis because of the bombs. They are scared of what tomorrow might bring." Hizbullah and other hostile organizations still have training bases in Latin America.

"Yes, Israel should still promote aliyah, but it also needs to help them survive. So I did not say one word about aliyah when I went there."

A Spanish-speaking member of Tel Aviv council, Snadar Spearman, who is playing an instrumental role in coordinating the project, says "Israel is the center of the Jewish world, we must help them."

The next stage of the project will see 30 or 40 community leaders from Buenos Aires coming to Tel Aviv next January.

"We will match professionals - psychologists with psychologists, educators with educators, social workers with social workers, to learn from each other and also to socialize and create an informal partnership," says Spearman. "They will see first-hand how we work."

Spearman says she found on her two visits since the project was initiated that the community was still very nervous. Enhanced security measures are being provided both by the police and private companies.

In some 70 Jewish schools, classrooms have been moved from the front of the school to the back, away from the street. Jewish buildings are now easily identified by their protective concrete barriers.

"Security is even greater than in Israel," says Spearman. "It is all very depressing for a community that is used to living openly."

Yet Friedman is optimistic the community will be rebuilt. "They are warm, nice people. They are hospitable, informal even by Israeli standards."

"And we hope that ours can serve as a model that can be used by other Israeli municipalities and Diaspora communities in the future - not just after some attack."



Life-and-death drama on a Tel Aviv beach. Drownings are still a worrisome challenge, particularly those that occur on lifeguards' off hours.

## Tel Aviv beaches: More dangerous than they appear?

**Two people have drowned off the Mediterranean coast this summer, and the Tel Aviv-Jaffa Municipality is worried a lifeguard strike may worsen the situation, writes Jessica Steinberg**

**I**T'S another hot, sunny day in July, and on the Tel Aviv beach the sun worshippers are out in full force, basking in those ultraviolet rays. In the water, most of the swimmers are frolicking in the ocean's shallow depths, while a few intrepid souls are out amongst the waves, swimming against the tide.

Sitting in his towering lifeguard chair, Moshe Berkowitz looks out onto the ocean, megaphone in hand, ready to call in anyone who ventures out too far.

"There's always someone who thinks that they can handle any wave," he says, gesturing toward the water. "But for the most part, we don't have any real problems out here during the day. It's either Israelis who are usually good swimmers, or tourists who go in for a quick dip to cool off."

Three lifeguards are on duty at each of the 16 beaches along the Tel Aviv shoreline, from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. during the beach season, which extends from May 1 until October 1.

Drownings are infrequent in this area, but not improbable. In the '96 season alone, there have already been two Tel Aviv drownings, both in mid-May.

A recent Interior Ministry report, dated July 1, states that there have been a total of 18 drownings during this season, occurring along the beaches from Ashkelon and Ashdod to Hadera and Haifa.

Avi Steinmetz, a deputy director

for the Tel Aviv-Jaffa Municipality, lets out a frustrated sigh when speaking about this season's drownings. While the figures haven't increased radically over the past few seasons, the causes and victims present a particular challenge.

"First of all, most of the victims drown because they're swimming in areas that are closed off of during non-lifeguard hours," he says. "And in recent years they've usually been new immigrants or foreign workers who have never lived near the ocean and have no idea how to handle it."

Some victims are Arabs who go in the water wearing clothing for religious reasons, and then get caught up in the rising tide, or visiting Jordanians who have never swum in an ocean. The lifeguards have taken to greeting busloads of Arabs, to give them swimming instructions before they hit the beach.

The municipality has also printed signs in Hebrew, Arabic and Russian, warning swimmers to refrain from entering certain areas of the water. But sometimes it's too no avail, Steinmetz says.

"The Arabs like to swim in secluded areas because they're modest, and the Romanian workers like to come down to the beach at night," he says. "Sometimes they've been drinking, which creates a lethal combination. And then there are the Eastern Europeans who think they know how to swim and go beyond the

roped-off areas."

For the most part, Israelis are not among the victims, Steinmetz says. Most of them grew up going to the beach and have learned to respect the ocean. As for the haredim, they don't have same modesty issues as the Arabs because there are several beaches that have separate swimming days for men and women. Still, he adds, the haredim tend to ride in the water up to their knees, without dipping in for a full swim.

DURING THIS particular week in mid-July, Steinmetz is facing a new issue: striking lifeguards. Since the proposed budget cuts, the lifeguards have been baring their teeth, leaving at 2:30 p.m. and therefore heightening the safety issue. And, in a few days, there's a possibility of a full-blown strike.

"I think they're making a big mistake," Steinmetz says of the lifeguard strike. "They make NIS 10,000 a month and get three months' vacation. That's more than I make."

To make matters worse it's the middle of the high season and that angers Steinmetz and his municipal colleagues.

"We've decided to play hardball with them if that's what comes down to it," he says. "We want to strong-arm us with their high-season tactics, but we're negotiating to let them."

Back on the beach at 2 noon, the lifeguards are out in full force, scanning the waters for possible trouble. It's a serene sea and if one squints a little, the slightly pudgy lifeguard sporting Speedo almost resembles one of the actors from *Baywatch*. Almost, but not quite.

"Ah, they're making a big deal over nothing," says one lifeguard who wouldn't give his name. "No one's going to drown out here in the middle of the afternoon, it's only the tourists and the old-timers, and they don't see any hazards."

"Listen," he says, "there's nothing worse than getting to the beach in the morning and finding out that someone drowned during the night. But it's usually a freak accident, and we're doing all we can to educate beach-goers about the hazards of the ocean."

## A dark history of antisemitism

**A**NTISEMITISM has been no stranger to Argentine Jewry. There have been numerous attacks against Jews and Jewish institutions, including desecration of cemeteries, telephone threats and occasional assaults. The most dramatic attack before the AMIA bombing was the bomb that leveled the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires in March 1992, leaving 29 dead and more than 200 injured.

After Juan Peron, a known Nazi sympathizer, came to power in 1946, the country became a safe haven for over 1,000 suspected Nazi war criminals and collaborators, the most notorious of whom, Adolf Eichmann, was captured by the Mossad in 1960.

During the military junta of 1976-83, of the 9,000 people who "disappeared," 1,000 were Jews. According to the state commission set up after democracy had returned, Jews (who make up less than 1 percent of the population) were often singled out for "special handling."

In contrast, today's president, Carlos Menem,

who came to power in 1989, has (despite his Arab origins) taken a decidedly pro-Jewish stance on several issues and is popular among Argentinean Jews. He has opened up government files on wanted Nazis who fled to Argentina after World War II and has apologized to Jews for Argentina's past record.

Yet despite repeated promises that an intensive and relentless investigation to apprehend the perpetrators of the attacks on both the Jewish and Israeli targets would be carried out, critics charge that little has been done to find those responsible.

Even today, suspicions abound that there are many antisemites in high places in Argentina. Only last week, the Justice Minister, Rodolfo Barra, was forced to resign after newspapers published photos of him giving a raised-arm Hitler salute when he was a young man. And in February, the Uruguayan newspaper *El Pais* reported that Eichmann aide Alois Brunner - now the world's most sought-after Nazi war criminal - had recently fled Syria and is now in Argentina.

Tamuz 5756 July 1996 ISRAEL

**AN EMOTIONAL APPEAL FROM 19 YEAR OLD NOA ESTHER SCHWARTZ TO THOSE WHO HAVE LENT THEIR ASSISTANCE TO SAVE HER LIFE**

Greetings and may G-d bless you all. I turn to you again in this emotional appeal for your assistance. Some of you know me personally, but most of you are only familiar with the story of the wonderful journey to save my life from cancer, which was detected on the eve of my Bar Mitzvah, first in my right leg and which later spread to both my lungs. You, as guardian angels, joined us by generously helping my devoted parents and brothers provide me with the best medical treatment money can buy, emotional strength and physical stamina. Together, we climbed the steep mountain of difficult chemotherapy treatments and 10 operations in 6 years on my leg and lungs.

Now with G-d's help, I am about to complete my National Service as an educational guide at the "Ulpana Grits High School" in Atula, and I will begin my university studies in the up-coming Academic year starting October 1996. G-d willing, I hope to be accepted to medical school, in order to realize my dream of returning to the hospital, this time as a doctor, who at one time came close to death, but with G-d's help was saved. In this way, I can lend a hand in helping those who are suffering, particularly children who unfortunately have been stricken with the same devastating illness that I had. Having been through this myself, I understand how precious life becomes for the suffering child.

I myself still in need of respiratory rehabilitation, following the two serious lung surgeries I have undergone, in 653 and 934. I must undergo follow-up evaluations every three months at the "Royal Brompton Lung and Heart Diseases Hospital" in London, where my lung surgeries were performed. This hospital has the most advanced, sophisticated and expensive diagnostic equipment in the world today. "CT Irradiation," found only in a few important medical centers in Europe, I cannot be assessed using MRI equipment due to the 28 cm. metal implant in my right leg. The CT diagnostic equipment available in Israel cannot be utilized in my complex case, and there have been some incidents that nearly ended in tragedy. My doctors in Israel and abroad have agreed that no further risks should be taken in this regard, that G-d forbid could be critical. In addition, I also need rehabilitation for my right knee, in which I still experience severe pain following the many surgeries on my leg, which were performed at the R.N.Q.H. Orthopaedic Hospital in London. During these surgeries, the bone, which was damaged by the cancer, was removed from my leg and replaced with an extendable metal telescopic 28 cm. implant. This implant was developed at the hospital's Biomedical Institute and prevented the amputation of my right leg up to the middle of my thigh. Thank G-d, it enables me to function using both my legs. Unfortunately, this implant is wearing away the knee cap which remains from my natural leg, causing me strong pains which restrict my activity. My doctors have referred me to Professor Martens of Belgium, a world renowned specialist in the area of knees. I have an appointment with him on 8/19/96 for consultation, to determine the method of treatment. Surgery to replace the knee cap may be unavoidable. From Belgium we will proceed to London for follow up evaluations at the Brompton Hospital and at the Middlesex Hospital by the oncologist Professor Bob Souhami.

My parents and brothers have courageously stood by my side during the past 6 1/2 years and have done everything humanly possible. My dear father has made a Herculean effort needed for saving my life, and to enable me to live in a dignified way. My father must carry on the very heavy financial burden, but unfortunately he is not as well as he was. Currently he is experiencing physical health difficulties, and I am still in need of his help, guidance and devotion for my own struggle.

Please help us meet the cost of the medical and vital expenses to preserving my life and to improving my daily functioning to the best of your ability. We receive no institutional assistance, except for the small participation of the health fund. We must carry the financial burden by ourselves.

Thank you. Most sincerely yours, Noa Esther Schwartz aged 19 years old

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We the undersigned, know the family and Noa Esther personally, and are familiar with the details of her illness. We join in this courageous appeal and warmly recommend that you generously contribute as much as possible in order to save a life. Please help us to give Noa health happiness and joy in life.

Chaim Drachman, Rabbi Chaim Drachman, Rosh Yeshiva, Heider Or-Ezon, Rabbi Baruch-Shimon Salomon, Chief Ashkenazi Rabbi of Petach-Tikva, Rabbi Moshe Meier, Chief Sephardi Rabbi of Petach-Tikva, Rabbi Zalman Nehemiah Goldberg, Dean Beth Din of Jerusalem, Rabbi Shmuel-Hacohen Kook, Chief Rabbi of Har Herzl, Mr. Abraham Marmorstein, R'm in Yeshiva "Merkaz Hazar", Jerusalem, Rabbi Yehoshua Magroa, R'm in Yeshiva "Merkaz Hazar", Jerusalem, Rabbi Michael Melchior, Chief Rabbi of Norway, Mr. David Feldman, C.P.A. - Treasurer, Mr. Eichenman Glat, Chairman "Beit Akiva" Israel, Mr. Shaul Weislich, Chairman - Vima, Mr. Abraham Marmorstein, R'm in Yeshiva "Merkaz Hazar", Jerusalem, Mr. Zippora Zuckerman, Principal "Yeshurun" Religious Junior High School, Petach-Tikva, Mrs. Yaffa Magroa, Principal "Beit Akiva" Israel, Mr. David Tamam, Chairman of the Religious Kibutz, Mr. E. Olor (Ovner), the Religious Kibutz, Mr. Zeev Stigitz, World Chairman "Beit Akiva", Mrs. Zippora Zuckerman, Principal "Yeshurun" Religious Junior High School, Petach-Tikva, Mrs. Yaffa Magroa, Principal "Beit Akiva" Israel.

We respectfully esteem the holy memory of Late Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Ozerbach z"tz, one of the initiators and founders of public committee for the rescue of Noa Esther Schwartz.

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# The model for modern Israel should not be the shtetl

GUEST COLUMNIST  
TOM O'DWYER

To have one opponent is unfortunate. To have dozens sounds like carelessness, to paraphrase Oscar Wilde.

Since Wilde was Irish, let's take his people, for example. A small country, Ireland has made great play for centuries of its invasion and occupation by its imperial neighbor.

But when I first set out on a lifetime of traveling, I was somewhat struck by the phenomenon that while sniping between Hibernia and the perfidious Albion seemed doomed to be eternal, the argumentative Irish seemed to irritate no one else greatly.

Like the Jews, there were more of them overseas than at home. Yet, apart from the odd few sociopaths that every nation is cursed with, their standing in the world seemed benevolent and secure.

As a small nation the Irish threatened no one. As committed patriots they earned respect. As a multi-talented lot, they generated some curiosity. And as sociable characters, they settled equally well in Lithuania or Long Island.

When I came to Israel, I liked it, and it seemed familiar - a small country of humane and talented people, suffused with patriotism born out of suffering, with most of their distant relatives somewhere else.

But the truly odd difference was that they seemed to be at odds with the world. The Jews' fight for a homeland after emerging from near destruction was as courageous as any in history. Their contribution to the higher levels of human achievement was remarkable.

So where were all the admiring international friends? Pretty thin on the ground, really.

There was America of course but at the time I was settling in, Yitzhak Shamir was engaged in some smarting with the George Bush administration. National relations with Europe were distinctly cool. Forget the Arabs. Africa was let down by some unseemly copying up to the unsavory apartheid junta down south. The Soviet bloc - apart from some more unseemly cooing with the obnoxious Romanian dictator - was out. Asia was out.

In the past four years, all that has changed, in the most startling overhaul of international relations any country has ever seen. The opening of diplomatic missions, the endless stream of foreign officials and state visits has so overwhelmed the media that what was once a sure front-page diplomatic story may be lucky to make it to the "for the record" columns.

And at the end of it all came the

undreamed of final blow: the noxious Arab trade boycott faded away, there was talk of trade missions in Oman and Qatar, a peace treaty was signed with Jordan, comings and goings between Israel, Morocco, Tunisia and Egypt became routine. There were even face-to-face chats with the sly Syrians.

On a visit to India last year, it was startling to hear urchin hustlers around the Taj Mahal and in New Delhi markets making their pitch in rudimentary Hebrew as they established that tourists were French, or English, or German - or Israeli.

The inauguration of the El Al flights to India seemed as extraordinary, and much more significant than the presence of an Omani sultan in Jerusalem.

This opening up of Asia, with the formerly hostile China and India as the jewels in the crown of international relations, meant Israel had arrived, long overdue, and at long last. Whatever happened in the notorious "peace process," there would be no going back.

OR SO it seemed. It seems so no longer.

"When my country takes its place among the nations of the earth, then and not till then, let my epitaph be written," said the Irish patriot Robert Emmet before his execution

by the British in 1803. It has always seemed a fine definition of a nation's true independence and earned respect.

In other words, foreign policy is as important as domestic policy, it defines domestic policy. International relations are the measure of a nation's stature in its own eyes, no less than in those of the world.

Take note, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, for the signals coming out of Jerusalem in the last three weeks are very disturbing indeed. Those who have spent their lives in the field of international relations, either reporting them in the media, or forming them in the diplomatic service, are getting distinctly uneasy.

At a fairly comprehensive gathering of the diplomatic corps for the French Bastille Day this week, the murmurings were dark indeed. The question was, are we going to see more of the old fortress Israel than the Israel of new frontiers? They fear so.

What Israel does about its domestic affairs and indeed its relations with the Palestinians is very much Israel's business, though the world feels as free to comment on it as the freewheeling Israeli press

does on strikes in France or war in Bosnia or elections in America.

What it does about its foreign policy is everybody's business. On the edge of the 21st century and the global village, some things will not do any more. "The world is against us" will not do. "You can't trust the French or the Brits or the Russians or the (fill in the blanks)" will not do. "The world's media is antisemitic" will not do.

"You cannot deal with Arabs unless they all democratize" most assuredly will not do. Many of us who lived in the Arab Gulf or Maghreb for some time can testify that one can live with, work with, and deal with Arabs very well and very closely indeed. It seems we've been able to deal with King Hussein and Hosni Mubarak and King Hassan quite well.

And if democracy is the be all and end all, why not tell China to cancel all our deals until its gets its democracy together?

If we are taught when young to approach every question with an open mind, why do politicians grow up to approach every question with an open mouth?

The model for modern Israel is not the shtetl. If Israel wants to renew hostility to friend and foe alike, then it will certainly be reciprocated. But it is no excuse to say

hostility to Israel is innate on every continent. It just isn't.

It is true that paranoids have real enemies but so does everyone else, so they are still left with being different only in their paranoia. Distrust and intolerance of somebody who is foreign is everywhere in the world. It is an unpalatable fact of humanity. The English distrust the French, the Greeks distrust the Turks, Koreans Japanese, Israelis Arabs. It is no reason for any one of them to withdraw into a ghetto.

The country's first president, Chaim Weizmann, saw a future Israel not in terms of a great power with the arrogance that goes with it, but in terms of Denmark, the Netherlands or Switzerland - nations small in territory but with high cultural and economic standards. It is a model Israel has yet to take to heart.

Denmark and Netherlands do not send their leaders to Washington to lecture the Congress. They do not lecture the Arabs about democracy. The United States sometimes lectures other nations but then it is a superpower, and even then it doesn't always get away with it without generating costly resentment.

Costly is a good word to remember. The first people to walk away from a self-isolating state are the

ones with the money. In a world of global trading where "confidence" is as fragile as a butterfly's wing, those who don't inspire it pay the price. This week's stock-market crash is as much about foreign policy as it is about provident funds and interest rates.

The previous government was scorned for Shimon Peres's airy-fairy vision of a New Middle East. Maybe it was a long shot, but at heart it was an economic vision of a common market, not a common culture.

Now it seems a mere vision is to be replaced by a demand, Netanyahu's, for a democratic Middle East one that shares a common democratic culture with us. Now which of the two prime ministers is the hopeless dreamer?

Any married couple can vouch for a simple truism. It is very difficult, though not impossible, to change oneself. But it is futile, counterproductive and possibly insulting, to try to change one's partner or anyone else. What we need is not any more attempts to change the Middle East, the Americans, Europeans, or all the goyim.

We don't need a new Middle East. We need a new Israel and so far the first people to walk away from this new government delivering it.

## Of journalists and citizens

A VIEW FROM NOV  
MOSHE KOHN

LATE in his career Fred Friendly, for decades one of the American electronic media's leading news presenters, anchors and talk-show hosts and then a professor of journalism, said he had "decided that I am a citizen before I am a journalist."

This means something much broader and deeper than the robot-like patriotism that justifies every stupidity and evil one's country might perpetrate.

Like Friendly, I am speaking of being a journalist in a country that, in the world in which we live, is among the countries that are relatively decent and striving to be more so.

It means that as a journalist/citizen in such a country, if I learn something, whose publication could jeopardize my country or help or encourage its foes or rivals, my first duty is to consider my country's welfare, above the public's "right to know" and my professional obligation.

It means that if I learn something about people or institutions whose publication will serve no redeeming civic purpose, no purpose other than to sell more papers or raise ratings, while hurting those people and institutions, I will keep that information to myself.

It means that I will strive for fairness. I say "fairness" rather than "balance," because balance - perfect balance - in presenting the news, whether in the print or the electronic media, is impossible to really achieve.

Measuring balance in journalistic treatment of controversial matters, often even simple happenings in broad daylight, is not merely a matter of measuring the allotment of words in the newspaper or minutes on radio and television.

Other important factors are whom the editor or reporter chooses to speak to on a particular matter; the contents of questions and the tone in which they are asked; the angle from which the

TV camera photographs; what is orally or photographically included in or omitted from the background; the interviewer's accidentally or deliberately arched eyebrow or curled lip.

Fairness is easier to measure, precisely because it is a more abstract quality and more a matter of impression than of empirical measurement. Two minutes or two sentences of fairness can sometimes counter-balance - nullify - 10 minutes or 10 paragraphs of lies or distortions.

(See Hebrew University Prof. Yaron Ezrahi's treatment of this problem in the May-June issue of *Ha'ayin Hashevi'tu* [HH], a media-review published by the Jerusalem-based Israel Democracy Institute of which Ezrahi is a senior fellow. The editor is Uzi Benziman, *Ha'aretz* commentator, and the editorial board consists of *Yediot-Aharonot* and former *Davar* reporter and commentator Nahum Barnea; radio and TV presenter Carmi Guy; and *Ma'ariv* night news editor Rafi Mann.)

ON MAY 1 a huge advertisement appeared in *Ha'aretz*, *Ma'ariv* and *Yediot-Aharonot*, signed by 26 intellectuals identified with both right and left, urging journalists to "place your commitment to democracy and political fair play above your inclination to one side or the other," and "draw a clear line between [your] right to express [your] opinions as publicists and [your] tasks as news editors and interviewers."

The above-mentioned issue of HH contains interviews with some of those 26 conducted by Avi Posen, editorial coordinator of ITN Channel 1's *Weekly Newsreel*.

Poet-publicist Haim Gouri, a veteran Laborite, told Posen the news media "do not always abide by the rules of fair play, are sometimes one-sided, and don't make a

clear separation between reporting and opinionation."

Haifa University philosophy lecturer Dr. Ruth Lorand, a Peres supporter, felt the *Popolitika* interviewers "sat before Shimon Peres like pupils before their teacher," while their interview with Binyamin Netanyahu was conducted "in marketplace tones."

Novelist-publicist Aharon Megged, also a veteran Laborite, said: "Clearly, there is no balance in the communications media... There isn't any 'leftist mafia,' but it's a fact that most media people hold leftist views. And it shows."

Tel Aviv University professor Gavriel Moked, who identifies himself as "center-left," said that "the overwhelming center-left tendency of the media makes me uncomfortable."

Novelist-educator S. Yizhar (Smilansky) thinks journalists "arrogate too much authority to themselves and sometimes behave boorishly."

EVEN SOME mediocrats sympathetic to the left on political and religious issues "admit the simple fact that the media people in Israel are leftists... voting for either Labor or Meretz" (Shelly Yahimovitch, on her Radio 2 morning talk show, *It's All Talk*, on May 2).

Yahimovitch is quoted in a report issued recently by the Jerusalem-based, independent Media Watch, which seeks to monitor both balance and fairness in our news media.

Media Watch has been characterized as right wing and paranoid because of its reports showing gross imbalance and unfairness in our electronic media's political coverage in the year and a half since its founding, tending heavily in favor of the Labor-Meretz regime.

It has also shown that there is a strong anti-feminist bias, both in the topics treated and in the choice of persons to be interviewed.

The same day Yahimovitch made her confession, Razi Barkai, presenter of Army Radio's *Where's the Fire?* talk show, asked Israel TV presenter Dan Shilon what he thought about the allegation that the media were treating the Likud unfairly.

Shilon, who is not known to be a rightist, replied: "...most of the media people in Israel hold views ranging from center to left, so it behooves them to be more sensitive to the need for balance and fairness to both sides."

Orit Galili of *Ha'aretz* told Ram Evron, presenter of ITV's *No Man's Land* program: "The entire press was mobilized for Peres, absolutely."

Evron asked whether she thought the news media ought "to repent." She replied: "Speaking for myself, I feel that we failed professionally. Neither I nor my colleagues made any allowance whatever for the possibility that Bibi Netanyahu would win..."

Media Watch is headed by Weizmann Institute professor Eli Pollack and directed by Yisrael Medad, who was parliamentary assistant to former Likud/Tehiya MK Geula Cohen and Communications Minister Limor Livnat when she was only a Knesset member.



## When humility is out of place

SHABBAT SHALOM  
SHLOMO RISKIN

A famous story in the Talmud attributes the destruction of the Second Temple in the year 70 CE not to the destructive enmity of the Roman armies but rather to the "causeless hatred" between two Jewish neighbors, as well as to the "humility" of a renowned rabbi named Zecharya ben Abkulas (B.T. Gittin 55b).

The story is simple. There was a man who had a good friend named Kamtza, and an enemy named Bar Kamtza. One day he decided to throw a great feast, but the servant sent with the invitation to Kamtza, the good friend, ended up inviting Bar Kamtza, the enemy.

Delighted to receive the invitation, he happily arrived at the party only to discover that the host wanted him out of there. His pride shaken, Bar Kamtza offered to pay his own way if he would be allowed to remain. The host wouldn't back off. Bar Kamtza kept raising the offer, from paying half the price of the feast, to paying for the entire party, just so that he wouldn't have to be publicly shamed. But the host was adamant. He would not deign to have his enemy at his table.

That Bar Kamtza desired revenge is not surprising, but instead of aiming his malice at the unforgiving host, he directed his hatred toward the rabbi who were in attendance but didn't speak up.

Most likely the rabbi's silence was understandable... but nonetheless reprehensible. It was a period of great poverty in Jewish history. If he could afford such an extravagance, and if so many rabbis gave

up an evening of Torah study to attend, he must have not only been a very wealthy man, but a major contributor to the charitable institutions of his day. The various heads of religious institutions therefore made an economic decision not to anger their benefactor.

Bar Kamtza was determined to show those rabbis a thing or two. He went straight to Caesar with the classic complaint that the Jews were rebelling. The emperor wanted proof, so Bar Kamtza suggested that the monarch send them an offering to be sacrificed on the altar in Jerusalem. He then blemished the animal's lips, rendering it unfit by Jewish law, although fit by Roman standards. Bar Kamtza believed the animal would not be offered, and the emperor would thereby be convinced that the Jews were indeed disloyal.

The rabbi had to decide what to do with the emperor's offering. They realized the danger if they rejected it, and so for the sake of the well-being of the citizenry they suggested that the offering be made anyhow. But one of the sages, Rabbi Zecharya ben Abkulas, disagreed. "They will say that blemished animals are offered on the altar."

When the rabbi next suggested that they kill Bar Kamtza to prevent him from returning to the emperor, Rabbi Zecharya again spoke up. "They will say that one who blemishes a consecrated animal is

Temple burnt."

Now undoubtedly R. Zecharya was a dedicated rabbi, and didn't want a questionable religio-legal decision to get out of his courthouse. But R. Zecharya was too worried about how the decision would affect the various political-religious factions in the community. He was not worried enough about doing what was correct in the eyes of God.

The word R. Yohanan uses to describe R. Zecharya's attitude, *anivut*, means "humility," which seems strange, since humility usually connotes a positive dimension. We are being told, however, that when humility prevents a religious leader from taking a necessary position as a result of his desire not to oppose other religious opinions it can be misplaced or even destructive.

There are situations, especially when the well-being of the Jewish community is at stake, when courage and not humility must be the guiding principle.

Ultimately, teaches R. Yohanan, the destruction of the Temple came about due to the lack of courage to make tough decisions. It's certainly fitting, therefore, that this week's portion also provides incontrovertible guidelines for the judges and the sages of Israel: "Do not give anyone special consideration when rendering judgment. You shall hear the great and small alike. You shall not be frightened (or impressed) by any human being, for the judgment is God's." (Deut 1:17)

Shabbat Shalom

killed!"

The language Rabbi Zecharya used was specific and instructional: "They will say..."

In the first situation, R. Zecharya was worried how the extremely religious element in the community would react to a ruling that permitted offering a blemished animal, even if the issue at hand was saving human lives. In the second situation, R. Zecharya was worried how liberals would react to killing a man because his knife "accidentally" cut the lip of the calf.

R. Yohanan has the final word, and how he summarizes events is illuminating. Instead of placing blame on the early characters in the narrative - the causeless hatred personified by the host, the initial silence of the rabbinic leadership, or the treachery of Bar Kamtza - he points his finger at R. Zecharya.

Of course the behavior of Bar Kamtza and his host are inexcusable, demonstrating all the failings of human existence. But R. Yohanan aims at a greater target than two stubborn fools. He wants us to understand that a grave mistake was committed when R. Zecharya didn't take proper action.

The tragedy could have been prevented by rendering a courageous halachic decision. There was a failure in leadership. And so R. Yohanan concludes: "Because of the humility of R. Zecharya our House has been destroyed, our

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10:30 a.m. RABBI YITZHAK SHURIN: "Destruction and Rebirth"  
11:30 a.m. DR. MIRIAM CAMPANINI-FLEER:  
"Eishes Seeking Comfort Through Memory"  
12:30 p.m. RABBI HOEL ZEFFE: "The Destruction of the Temple: What Have We Lost?"

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This notice applies equally to men and women.



FOR the most part spring is the time for wildflowers, although autumn is the appointed time for a few species. But one group can be seen even in the heart of summer: Some members of the wild carrot family are in full bloom in July and August, while others, that blossom principally in spring, linger on.

The first of these is the true wild, or garden, carrot (*Daucus carota* in Latin, *gezer hagina* in Hebrew). This is a tall annual or biennial herbaceous plant that flourishes in fields and along roadsides. When biennial it comes up a second year from the nutrient-storing underground carrot, otherwise it sows its tiny seeds all around. This is the ancestor of the domestic carrot, and while its root is edible, it is long, thin and some-

what stringy. Its inflorescence is easily identified by the fact that the large round head is composed of a slightly dome-shaped group of floret clusters. It has a small, dark bead in the center. This species blooms from April until July.

The wild carrot also has another close relative, the crown flower (*Artedia squamata* in Latin, *shafriti kashkeshanir* in Hebrew) but here the florets are a saucer-like, flat plate or umbrel with a frill of larger florets around the edge, making it resemble a white lace doily. This species also has a small dark-bead center.

## Meet the wild carrots

NATURE  
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

It is usually through blooming by the end of May or early June but can sometimes be found in summer in well-watered fields and at the edge of gardens. It is easy to differentiate the crown flower from its relative, the ainsworthia (*Ainsworthia trachicarpa* in Latin, *salsala mar-sui* in Hebrew.)

The ainsworthia also blooms early, but sometimes lingers on and has a profuse inflorescence, making carpets of the white flowers in season. Here there is no black-bead center.

Three other members of the wild carrot family are found here; right now the one showing the most blossom is the toothpick (*Ammi visnaga* in Latin, *amta kizit* in Hebrew). This is its true season and, while it closely resembles the true wild carrot, its umbrels are slightly smaller and it has no dark dot in the center. It may be seen until the end of August.

The Venus comb, *Scandix pecten-veneris* in Latin, *masrek shulamit* in Hebrew), on the other hand has diffuse umbrels divided into clumps of flowerlets, and the fruit resembles a comb, hence its name. The last of this small group is

the Egyptian carrot (*Tordylium aegyptiacum*, or *darchomni matsui* in Hebrew). Here the small umbrels are separated on a stem, and each contains both large and small flowerlets and the fruit resembles coins.

The roots of all these wild carrot types are small in diameter but extremely long and, although they lack bulk, they do store nutrients, just as a carrot does.

Some animals such as porcupines dig for them and mole rats love them. All of them have special niches in folk medicine and herbalists assign very specific potencies to each of the different types. Some are said to be diuretic, some good for the nerves and one for falling eyesight. *Ainsworthia* is even claimed as a cure for sexual impotence.

## Karpov victorious

CHESS  
NICK KOPALOFF

NATOLY Karpov retained his FIDE world chess championship title against US challenger Gata Kamsky last week by drawing game 18 in the small city of Elista on the banks of the Caspian Sea.

The 45-year-old an unassailable lead in the 20-game series.

Admitting his exhaustion, and in chronic need of a long rest, Karpov may nevertheless be forced to defend his crown in a couple of months as plans are afoot for a new-style world championship tournament at the end of 1996. But this will not perturb him. "I am used to working hard and this is how I apprehend the joy of life. I must prepare for tomorrow's battles," he explained.

Karpov and Kamsky will share over \$1 million in prize money. But the challenger will not be receiving his losers' purse in full as his father and coach, Rostam, described as "a pugnacious ex-boxer," was fined for persistently alleging that Karpov was being secretly briefed during games from the tournament computer room.

The dry, phlegmatic Karpov is known for his ultra-scientific style on and off the chess board. But this image is not wholly deserved. Although he rarely unleashes the captivating fireworks usually associated with the likes of Fischer and Kasparov, Karpov has in fact won more "chess Oscars" — an accolade conferred by chess journalists — than any of his contemporaries.

Karpov was the only world champion in chess history to have won the title without having played a title match. This occurred when the incumbent champion, Bobby Fischer, refused to defend his title in 1975. But, defying critics who questioned his credentials, he has since stood at the forefront of world chess, never falling below third place in the world rankings.

The following game from his world championship defense in Merano, Italy, against Victor Korchnoi is regarded by Karpov as one of his finest from that memorable match.

Korchnoi, Victor — Karpov, Anatoly  
Merano 1981 Queens Gambit Declined

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Be7 4.Ng3 Nf6 5.Bg5 h6 6.Bh4 0-0 7.Re1 dxc4? This novelty move had been found in Karpov's pre-game preparation; it had previously never been seriously considered by opening theorists.

8.e3 c5 9.Bxc4. An imbalance arises after the line 9.dxc5 Qxd1+

10.Rxd1 Bxc5 11.Bxf6 gxf6 12.Bc4 9...cxd4 10.exd4 Nc6 11.0-0 Nf5! Thwarting the Korchnoi initiative by forcing the exchange of bishops.

12.Bxe7 Nxe7 13.Bb3 Nf6 14.Ne5 Bd7 15.Qe2 Re8 16.Ne4 Nxe4 17.Qxe4 Be6 18.Nxc6 Rxc6! 19.Rc3 Qd6 20.g3 Rd8 21.Rd1 Rb6 22.Qe1. More stubborn resistance would have been achieved with 22.Rcd3 Nd5 23.Qf3!

23...Qd7! 23.Rcd3 Rd6 24.Qe4 Qe5 25.Qd4 Nd5 26.Qd2 Qb6 27.Bxd5 Rxd5 28.Rb3 Qc6 29.Qc3 Qd7 30.f4 b6 31.Rb4 b5 32.a4 bxa4 33.Qa3 a5 34.Rxa4 Qb5 35.Rd2 e5!! 36.Ne5 Rxe5 37.Qa1

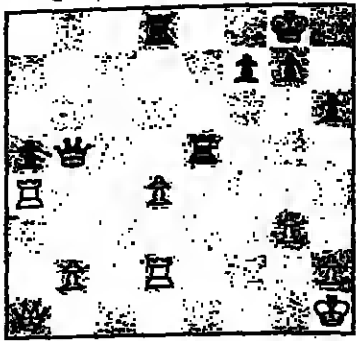


DIAGRAM 1 after White's 37th move

37...Qe8!! This auspicious retreat, threatening 38...Re1+, was a complete surprise to Korchnoi. 38.dxc5 Rd7 39.Rxa5 Qe6 40.Ra8+ Kh7 41.Qb1+ g6 42.Qf1 Qe5+ 43.Kh1 Qd5+. The White queen is lost 0-1.

IN THE following endgame composition, Black is materially ahead and looks set to triumph. But White turns the tables and forces a pretty draw. White to play and draw.

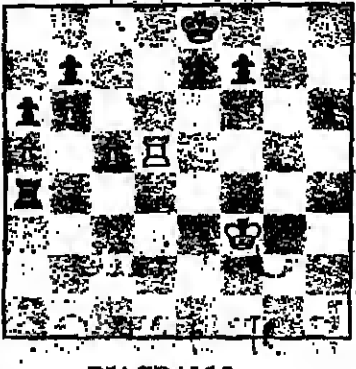


DIAGRAM 2

Solution: 1.c6! bxc6 2.Rb5!! The artistic blocking of the b file by sacrificing the rook forces the promotion of the b pawn and Black must now be on his toes to secure the draw.

2...axb5 3.b7 Rxa5 4.b8=Q+ Kd7 0.5 0.5

## Should they be playing on the Sabbath?

BRIDGE  
MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

East dealer  
Both sides vulnerable

North  
♠ Q  
♥ K Q J 6 4 3  
♦ 10 4  
♣ A 9 8 4

West  
♠ 7 3  
♥ 9 8 7 5  
♦ Q 5  
♣ J 10 7 6 2

East  
♠ J 4  
♥ A 10  
♦ A K 9 7 6 2  
♣ K 5 3

South  
♠ A K 10 9 8 6 5 2  
♥ 2  
♦ J 8 3  
♣ Q

West North East South  
1♦ 4♣  
(all pass)

Opening lead: ♠Q

THE trials for the Israeli international bridge teams continued this week. The women's event is being held among amazing scenes of confusion. These scenes arise from the fact that, for the first time, there is a strong Israeli pair that includes a Shabbat-observant player. She will not play on

Shabbat, although traditionally competitions in Israel have always been held on Shabbat.

This year the seven qualifying rounds for the trials were held on Shabbatot as usual. The Shabbat-observant pair, as part of a negotiated compromise with the bridge federation, played successfully in other events during the year. They were then invited to join four other pairs in the first round of the trials.

This was appealed against by the other players. They argued that they worked during the week and the best time to play bridge was on Shabbat. They also argued that a different set of rules was applied to the observant pair for qualifying for the trials. The result of the appeal was that one-third of the sessions were rescheduled back to Shabbat.

The first round of the trials was held in three sessions. One was on a Shabbat, and when the observant pair did not play, they were awarded a 40 percent score from the tournament committee for the three matches missed in this session. After two more ses-

sions, held during the week, the observant pair placed third, 10 percent above the fourth pair.

The rules state that the first two pairs go into the final round, but that the judges choose between the third and fourth for entry into the final round. The judges selected the Shabbat-observant pair. The final round comprises these three pairs plus another pair who received a bye in the first round. The first of the final sessions took place last Shabbat; the observant pair refused to play and again they were awarded a 40 percent score.

The protest continued. On Sunday night the first match was canceled while a religious court heard what was now the third protest in three weeks by the other four women's pairs against the Shabbat-observant pair. The eliminated fourth pair from the first round appealed to a Bridge League's religious court to reenter the tournament. The court rejected this appeal. At the conclusion of play on Tuesday night, the scores were all close, and there was still an appeal pending by the observant pair in



Orthodox players, it was suggested, should 'choose between religion and bridge.'

protest of four deals played on Sunday night that were not counted in the scoring.

In the ongoing debate, some players suggested that the observant pair choose between religion and bridge. On the other side, the observant pair claims that because religion is a basic human right, organizations such as the Israeli Bridge Federation must make provisions for players to play and still observe their religion. The controversy should be resolved by next Friday.

TODAY'S DEAL was played in both the open and women's trials and four spades was the popular contract. The opening lead was the queen of diamonds, which held the trick. Most Easts played the deuce to signal for a shift to clubs. They were hoping for one heart trick, two diamonds and one club. But when West shifted to a club at trick two, declarer was able to win the ace and lead the king of hearts. East could win the ace,

but on the lead of the king of clubs, South ruffed, led a trump to the queen and cashed the queen of hearts for a discard of a diamond.

These declarers lost only two diamonds and one heart, to make their contract. At one table West continued diamonds at trick two to her partner's king. Now East had the chance to shift to trumps but fell from grace, continuing with a third diamond. Declarer ruffed the third diamond in dummy, cashed the ace of clubs and came to her hand with a club ruff to draw trumps.

Even without signals, bridge logic suggests a trump shift by West at trick two. West's length in clubs, combined with South's preempt, makes it very likely that South is short in clubs, and removing dummy's trump card appears to be the best tactic. Yet, under the pressure of trials competition, no one found the play. Perhaps, like rules of contest, it is easier on paper than at the table.



### CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
- 4 Hold back while others shower (8)
  - 8 Article by leading student is a dissertation (6)
  - 9 Puritan cavalrman was not one left off side (8)
  - 10 Islander's radio can suffer from interference (8)
  - 11 Not an expert songster? (6)
  - 12 A game with American soldier having a written defence (8)
  - 13 In principle fellows provide accommodation (8)
  - 16 The polar storm of overabundance (8)
  - 19 Theoretical idea by a novice (8)
  - 21 Climbed like a fish (6)

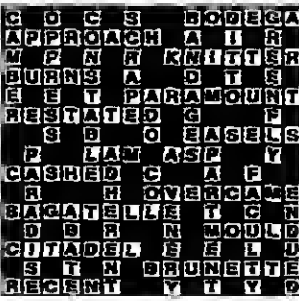
- 23 An example of double-talk? (8)
- 24 Govern taking nothing from one of the shock troops (8)
- 25 Greek character Russell not to convince someone else it's bull (6)
- 26 Unrivaled lady about 50 (8)

- 4 Beastly pelt (4,4,3,4)
- 6 Brave country! (8)
- 6 Reliable, but not to start with, being out of practice (5)
- 7 Introspective tie found in the hotel (7)
- 14 Only one person has a say in it (8)
- 15 Summarise study twice on two points (8)
- 17 Locates variety of sugar found in milk (7)
- 18 It is foolish taking short holiday with us, going round where in France? (7)
- 20 Unpleasant, interfering old woman right out in the back street (6)
- 22 It can only be seen at night in the double mural (5)

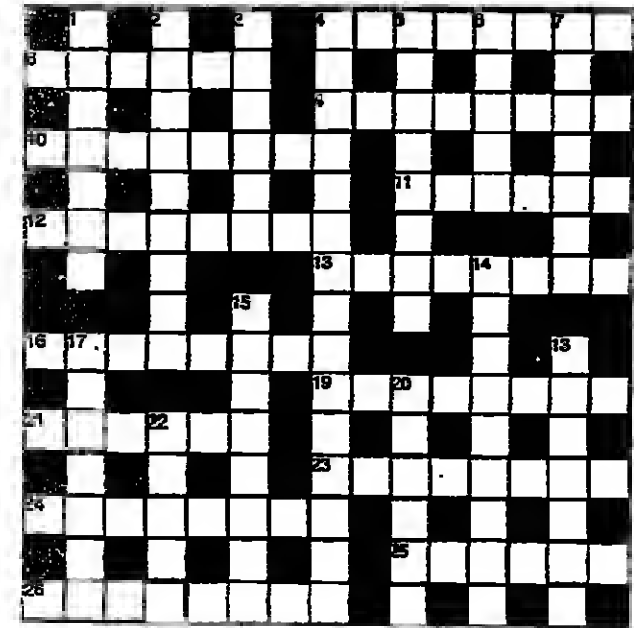
#### DOWN

- 1 They admit blame for hospital treatment (7)
- 2 He attacks when put out by a worker (8)
- 3 Demanding silver-edged cover (6)

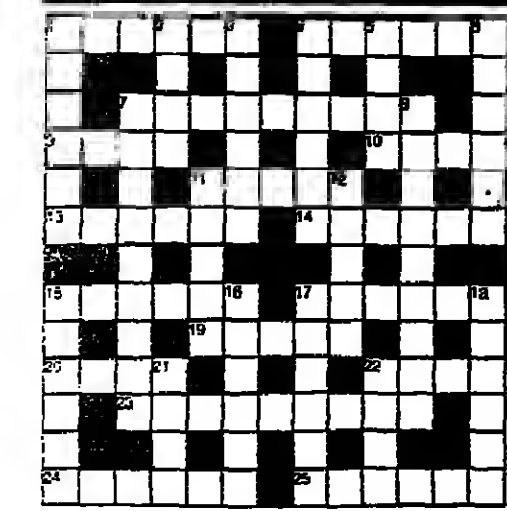
### SOLUTIONS



Yesterday's Quick Solution  
ACROSS: 1 Canary, 4 Stirs, 10 Tights, 11 Severe, 13 Aisle, 15 Steered, 16 Eden, 17 Spade, 19 Letter, 22 Felt, 23 Frigate, 27 Train, 29 Unfit, 30 Imagine, 31 Alarm, 32 Sheep.  
DOWN: 2 Aught, 3 Noticed, 5 Taste, 6 Beverage, 7 Seal, 8 Crown, 9 Pride, 14 Tell, 18 Left, 19 Painful, 20 Attract, 21 Spout, 22 Series, 24 Under, 25 Ache, 29 Alibi.



### QUICK CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- 1 Things (imag) (6)
  - 4 Vindict (6)
  - 7 Fairground feature (8)
  - 9 Sticky material (4)
  - 10 Invalid (4)
  - 11 Poorly (5)
  - 13 Inn (6)
  - 14 Caped (6)
  - 15 Governing (6)
  - 17 Hue (6)
  - 19 Forbidden (5)
  - 20 Ukraine capital (4)
  - 22 Rebuke (4)
  - 23 Short-legged dog (9)
  - 24 Milliner (6)
  - 25 Move slowly (6)
- DOWN
- 1 Lump of gold (6)
  - 2 Bird of prey (4)
  - 3 Browning of the skin (6)
  - 4 Effervescent (6)
  - 5 Tehran's country (4)
  - 6 Greek mathematician (6)
  - 7 Snuffed (9)
  - 8 Total reversal (9)
  - 11 Main force of a blow (5)
  - 12 Bruise (5)
  - 15 Dissolute (6)
  - 16 Collect (8)
  - 17 Bludgeoned (6)
  - 18 Loose rock (8)
  - 21 Hoge (4)
  - 22 White flakes (4)

## Keep an eye on your iris

GARDENING  
INEZ KLIMIST

THOSE tall, bearded irises were really lovely this past spring. But now what? The leaves are all ragged and yellowing, and it's time to do something about them.

Rule number one is to cut. Do not tear. If you try to tear away the old leaves, you may injure the rhizome, allowing fungus and bugs to invade. The entire plant may be infected, and that will be the end of your iris.

Use a sharp scissors or secateur and cut across all the leaves and stems at about 10cm. A light dressing of compost will be appreciated by your plants. Do not add fertilizer until the colder weather begins. Just keep them watered lightly, do not let them soak. Soaking is the worst enemy for your iris. Make sure they have good drainage so there will be no chance of rot setting in.

But what if your iris didn't do so well last spring? Maybe the flowers were much smaller than usual, or perhaps there just were not as many flowers as in past years. There are some things which you can do to remedy the problem, and the time to do these things is now. Give them time to put down strong roots before autumn.

If the corns have been in the ground for three or four years and are beginning to get crowded, it is necessary to dig them up and divide them. First of all, cut the leaves back. Then use a digging fork and lift the corns carefully — don't scratch the skin or leave cuts and wounds. As long as you have all the rhizomes out, turn over the entire bed. Remove old roots, weeds, and debris and break up heavy clods of soil. Add some compost and dig it in well.

Using a sharp knife, cut apart the rhizome. Separate out the new side shoots, leaving each with a few leaves. Throw out the old center portion, as well as any part of a rhizome which shows signs of softness, rot, disease, or insect invasion. Don't put spoiled plant material into the compost pile. The garbage can is the place for that. Then replant the strong young rhizomes with the top just below the soil. If you plant them all facing the same direction, they will fill the empty spaces in between, as they grow.

Then make the rounds of your friends and neighbors. Find homes for all the plants which you do not need, and make the neighborhood a brighter place next spring.

A READER asks: Why are earthworms desirable in the soil? Earthworm castings, composed of digested soil particles, organic matter and secretions, contain from five to 10 times as much nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium as the surrounding soil. They also have beneficial bacteria which speed the breakdown of organic material.

Because earthworms refine soil size in the casting process, an earthworm-rich garden creates better soil texture as well as adding nutrients. The fine texture of castings makes them an excellent medium for plant growth, and is often used to improve potting soil. Earthworms do make a substantial contribution — they can produce as much as 700 pounds of castings a day per acre.

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INVITATION

### She'arim

College of Jewish Studies for Women

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THURSDAY, JULY 25 '96

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11:00 AM YINOH  
12:00 AM BIR BIRUMI - WHAT ARE WE RETURNING  
1:00 PM FRANA FRIEDMAN - HOW TO STUDY TORAH  
2:00 PM HILLY LAVIN - SHE'S A GEM  
AT DATI LEUMI SHUL, 22 CHAI TAIB, HAK NUF  
20 NIS DONATION - (02) 691-4240

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July 19 1996

# Calgary dreams of year-round tourist stampede

Western Canada's greatest skyscrapers are ... the Rockies, Sam Orbaum writes

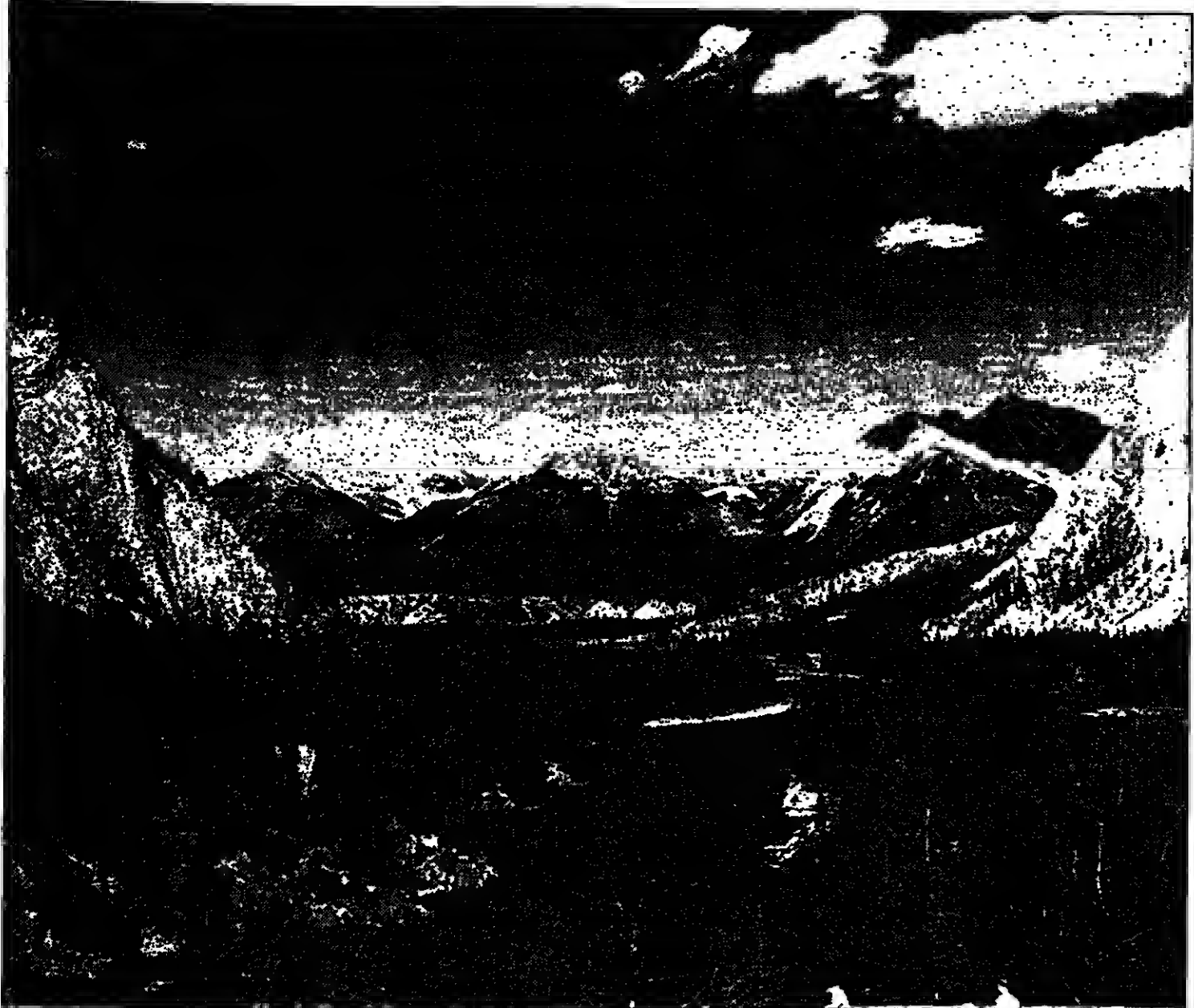
SOMEWHERE in the midst of all that wheat, oil and cattle, those mountains, lakes and trees, is a city seeking within itself a tourist industry. Like everywhere else on earth outside of North Korea, Calgary is trying for a share of the zillion dollars humanity spends annually on sightseeing.

Calgary, though, is a tough sell. It's not a natural wonderland; it's not steeped in history; it's not going to draw pilgrims, sun-worshippers and culture-vultures; it's far away and detached from the beaten track.

If you could go anywhere on earth, why Calgary? Air Canada and the Canadian Embassy in Tel Aviv invited seven Israeli journalists to answer that question. They showed us a handsome modern city of 750,000, wealthy and growing, a corporate megacentre, safe, friendly, clean, quiet. Truly a great place to live. The shopping is good, and with the Canadian buck in the doldrums, very, very cheap.

The best the city has to offer is a rip-roarin' non-stop carnival called the Calgary Stampede. If you hanker for the Wild West - the real thing, not the simulated stuff of Disneyesque theme parks - Calgary is the place to be for a 10-day period in July. A saucy spirit engulfs the city, as it has yearly since the first Stampede in 1912. You can sit and schmooze with the world's greatest cowboys, who'll then excuse themselves to go rattle a bull or saddle a bronc.

Calgary becomes tourist heaven with what they call "the greatest outdoor show on Earth": rodeos, stage shows, chuckwagon races,



The Banff Springs Hotel, one of Canada's greatest attractions, enjoys a spectacular view of the Rockies. (Joel Fishman)

clowns, parades, a casino, dog shows, you name it. Yee-ha-ha! For the other 355 days of the year, you can still get a taste of the West. The Glenbow Museum, with its rich selection of Canadiana, is superlative; Heritage Park is good family fun, a historical village that harks back to pre-1915 pioneering days; and you can arrange a tour of an

Indian reservation. Hal Eagletail, a representative of the "Government of the Sarcee Nation" (all of 900 souls), will show you around and answer even the most inane questions with dignity and insight. The reservation is not a theme park; don't expect tepees and war-painted chiefs shooting arrows at Mounties. Instead, it's an unusual

exploration of the natives' astounding modern success story. For a woolly experience we don't yet have in Israel, take in an unusual dinner-and-show combo at the downtown Eau Claire Market. It's probably better to eat afterward - especially if you experiment with such delicacies as alligator stew or buffalo steak - because the entertainment can

turn your stomach upside down. The show, IMAX Theater, is cinema like you've never imagined. The screen is six stories high and about as wide, and the film completely assaults your senses. When that little airplane flies over sheer Andes cliffs, you sort of lose bodily control a bit. In fact, at the beginning of the screening, a staffer advises the

## 'Who the hell is Air Canada?'

DOING some research for this newspaper some years ago, I came across an odd ad published in the *Post* in the early 1970s. It read, in its entirety: "Air Canada? Who the hell is Air Canada?" Israelis are only now beginning to find out. Perhaps fed up with indifferent and sometimes downright abrasive "service" of an airline that shall remain nameless, travelers on the Canada routes are sampling The Big Maple Leaf In The Sky, which began connecting with Israel in June 1995. There is a noticeable difference, as Air Canada seems to have fine-tuned what is best termed "professional friendliness." The airline flies nonstop Tel Aviv-Toronto four times a week, with plans to add more flights at a later date. (Direct flights to Montreal are available only via El Al.) An Air Canada official told us that, to their surprise, its burgeoning business is not just Israelis traveling to Canada and vice versa: many Americans find it convenient to use Toronto as a transfer point. -S.O.

audience that "if during the film you feel out of sorts, just close your eyes for a few seconds."

THE BEST that Calgary has to offer is its backyard, which just happens to be filled with Rocky Mountains. An hour away is paradise for the outdoorsy type. You can do it all here: trail-riding, white-water rafting, camping or hiking among unspoiled mountains and meadows, fishing, golf, plus, of course, the full gamut of winter sports. You'll probably see more elk, deer and bighorn sheep than people, though you'll want to avoid the mountain lions and grizzlies. (Andre, our ever-grinning guide, assured me that he'd never yet lost a tourist to an animal.) And if, somewhere in the middle of nowhere, you come across a snowman that looks suspiciously Israeli, you'll know we were there first!

What is civilized is tastefully unobtrusive. There are new resorts such as Boundary Ranch in a region called Kananaskis Country, which has a remarkable range of activities. I mean, if you get tired of alpine hiking and helicopter sightseeing, you can pitch horseshoes, enter a log-sawing contest, join a gunfight or be on a bus that's held up by those nasty "Boundary Bad Bunch" who, if you're lucky, will

snatch you away and ride you off into the sunset. Sounds like fun if you've never done it for real.

ONE FINAL word: Banff. This has got to be one of the most spectacular towns in the world. Nestled among the soaring Rockies, it somehow manages to host millions of visitors without being a tacky tourist trap. Even the main drag is quaint and charming, and a feeling of conviviality pervades. According to our guide Andre, the town fathers (and, for all I know, mothers) are most punctilious about preserving Banff's dignity and will not allow, for example, shops to hawk trashy *shmourzes*. If there was a McDonald's I didn't notice; its golden arches certainly don't rise up against the red-rock backdrop. Guests at the Banff Springs Hotel don't have to go far to see one of Canada's greatest attractions - the hotel itself.

A sprawling, majestic Victorian palace, the legendary hotel will show you around even if you're not staying in one of its 815 rooms. There are some 50 shops, a European-style spa, an Old World ambience and one of the world's most scenic golf courses. Next time I come here, I'm going to stay three weeks in the hotel - though I'll definitely make a side-trip to Calgary.

## On the border of history

SEE IT HERE HAIM SHAPIRO

IF you visit Geshet, you will probably see the old power station, which straddles the River Jordan. You may also get a history lesson.

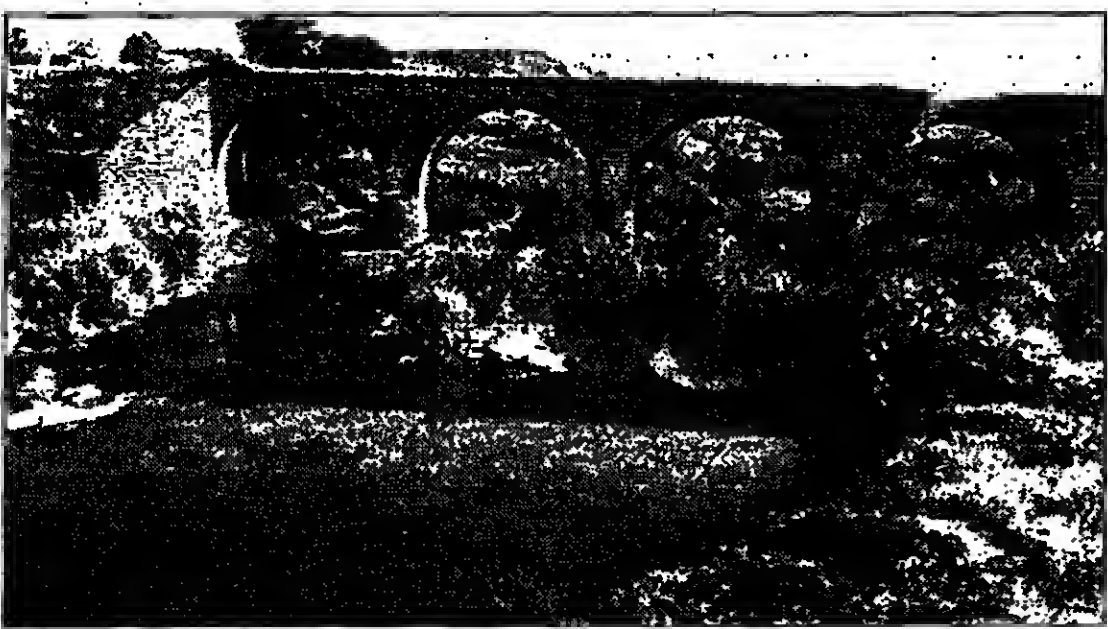
Located east of Highway 90, about 15km. north of Beit She'an, Old Geshet is the original site of Kibbutz Geshet, destroyed in the War of Independence. The present kibbutz stands on the hillside, on the other side of the road. Little remains of the original kibbutz, other than the shelter in which the residents took refuge and which now houses an exhibit on those days, and the old dining hall, which has been reconstructed and which now houses an audio-visual program (available in Hebrew and English).

This program gives the visitor some idea of the rich history of a spot which served as a natural crossing point of the Jordan from time immemorial. Using a wide range of visual and sound effects and some rare old film clips, the show concentrates on the modern history of the site, both as a rail crossing in Turkish times, and as a Jewish settlement before and during the War of Independence. A key figure in this history is Pinhas Rutenberg, who established the country's first electric power station on the Jordan, just north of Geshet.

After the show, you can walk outside and see it all before your eyes. There is the Roman bridge, rebuilt by the Crusaders and the Mamelukes; the Turkish bridge, built for the Hejaz Railway line (which extended from Constantinople to Mecca); and the third concrete bridge, built by the British, for the road from Beit She'an to Tiberias, which then went through Transjordan.

All three bridges were blown up by the defenders of Geshet during the War of Independence, in order to block the attacking Arab forces, but you can see their remains, as well as a small fourth bridge laid down recently by the IDF Engineering Corps. That bridge was used by Israeli and Jordanian officials who met for secret talks preceding the 1994 peace treaty between the two countries.

The peace treaty enabled archeologists to uncover the remains of a medieval rest house, in which many of the arched side rooms are still standing. In the distance, you can see the dam and buildings housing the turbines of Rutenberg's power station. The geological configuration of the Jordan's riverbed



A Roman-style bridge is one of the attractions at Geshet, near Beit She'an.

able for the dam. This was in Transjordan, and the power station and its workers constituted a small Jewish enclave there. In fact the power station was used before the War of Independence as a meeting place between Transjordan's King Abdullah and the Zionist leaders. Groups who visit the site today have the chance to make a quick visit to Jordan. Before the peace treaty was signed, Geshet and its neighbor Ashdot Ya'acov farmed lands on an island formed by the Jordan, the Yarmuk, and a canal which served the power station, territory which actually belonged

to Jordan. According to the peace treaty, the land was returned to Jordan, which leased the land to the two kibbutzim, giving them and their guests the right to visit it. At Geshet, there are no provisions for individual tourists, but groups can pass a border sign and a roadblock operated by a Jordanian soldier. Then, on a small hill just below a Jordanian military outpost and watchtower, visitors can enjoy a panoramic view of both countries, on both sides of the river. The Old Geshet site is open on weekdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. On Fridays it is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Admission

for individuals is NIS 12 for adults, NIS 11 for pensioners, and NIS 8 for children and soldiers. Groups should make arrangements in advance; tel. (06) 752685.

## Ready cash at Ben-Gurion

TRAVELERS passing through Ben-Gurion Airport might have noticed the recently installed Aero-Cash machines, operated by Inflight Financial Services. Located alongside the boarding gates, the machines provide money in the currency of the flight's destination country. (The company says this service now includes Jordanian dinars.) There is no fee and exchange rates are similar to those available on arrival.

A LUXURY tour of what was once the Austro-Hungarian Empire is being offered by Holidays Tours, with accommodation in deluxe hotels in Prague, Karlovy Vary (Karlovy Vary), Vienna, and Budapest, as well as limousine transport from Prague to Karlovy Vary and a Danube cruise from Vienna to Budapest. The price of \$1,555 includes flights and hotel's with breakfast.

A SERIES of European-river

### TRAVEL TIPS HAIM SHAPIRO

cruises is available through Bonissa. A four-night cruise on the Rhine, from Amsterdam to Stuttgart, is going for DM 1,296 (about \$852), while a seven-night cruise between Paris and Honfleur sells for DM 2,020 (about \$1,328). Both prices include full board.

A 10-NIGHT cruise to Alaska on the Royal Caribbean Line is available for \$1,149. The company is represented in Israel by Arkia.

YOUTH FARES of \$375 to most European destinations are available through Airtour until the end of August. Airtour also offers adults discounts of 20 percent on the price of rental cars for passengers on El Al, Iberia, Sabena and SAS.

## A return to Jewish roots...

# LITHUANIA LATVIA ESTONIA ST. PETERSBURG

A Jerusalem Post Travel Club tour planned by Geographical Tours / Neot Hakikar.

The Baltic States, before the Holocaust home to hundreds of thousands of Jews, is only now, after the demise of the Soviet Union, welcoming visitors. With an English-speaking guide from Geographical Tours, we'll visit Vilna, the "Jerusalem of Lithuania" and tour its ghetto, synagogues, memorials, etc. Then to Kovna (Kaons) and Riga (visiting the old city, garden of statues, etc.) and the Ramboli Forest. Next on the itinerary is Tallin, capital of Estonia on the Gulf of Finland, with its port and old city. From there we'll continue to St. Petersburg (Leningrad), Russia's second largest city. We'll visit its museums, the Czar's Winter Palace, the world-famous Hermitage Museum, the Peter and Paul Fortress, the cruiser Aurora (where the 1917 revolution started), the Piskaryovskoye Cemetery, and stroll along the banks of the Nieva River and the renowned Nievsky Prospect. And that's not all.

We'll stay in first-class or quality tourist hotels, travel in air-conditioned buses, be accompanied by a full-time English-speaking guide from Geographical Tours in Israel, and a local guide where necessary. The price includes all this plus the round-trip flight, half board accommodations (breakfast and evening meal) and admission to all sites. No Shabbat travel. Vegetarian menu available.

THE DATE: Monday, August 26 - Tuesday, September 2, inclusive.

THE PRICE: US\$ 1,825 per person in a double room. US\$ 278 extra for a single room.

For reservations and further information: The Jerusalem Post Travel Club Tel. 02-6221679 Fax. 02-236161

Sun-Thurs. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Ask for Nicole or Trava.

**הקן החדשה לישראל**  
**New Israel Fund**

JOIN A ONE-DAY STUDY TOUR IN JERUSALEM AND TEL AVIV  
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THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1996

Spend a day in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv visiting the new Supreme Court and meeting with activists of Israel's social change movement. Learn about the civil and human rights agenda, issues facing the homosexual community and efforts to advance religious pluralism. For further details, contact Dana Miller or Menav Ophir at Tel. 02-723095 or Fax. 02-723099. The price of \$25 (NIS 75) includes lunch and transportation from Jerusalem. Please note that space is limited.

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## TWO DAYS ON THE GOLAN

Widely recognized as perhaps Israel's most important security asset, the Golan is for the moment on the back burner. But it won't be there for long. So what better time than now to join Shorashim and The Jerusalem Post for an in-depth, English-speaking two day tour of the area. Led by guides Miriam and Emmanuel Shilo, we'll visit the settlements, examine the security issues and view the terrain, the animals, the water and the beauty.

We'll visit Beit Gavriel on the Kinneret, Kfar Haruv and Mitzpe Shalom, the yeshiva at Hispin, the wineries at Katzrin, the Druse village of Ein Kinya, Emek Habacha, Kibbutz Ein Zivan, Gamla, and more. Overnight at Kibbutz Kfar Blum, with a lecture on the Golan's wild animals.

The date: Wednesday/Thursday, August 28 and 29, 1996.

The price: NIS 550. Includes transportation from Jerusalem or Tel Aviv and back, background lectures and on-the-spot explanations, entrance to all sites, half-board accommodation in a double room, lunch and dinner on the first day, breakfast and lunch on the second.

Pick-up and drop-off along the route when possible, by prior arrangement.

Reservations and further information: SHORASHIM, POB 7588, 14 Rehov Abarbanel, Rehavia, Jerusalem 91074. Tel. 02-666231 (9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)

Ask for Romit, Tami or Varda.

rious  
INVITATION  
MOMMY



# A dandy day for diplomacy

# Bar-Ilan blues

GRAPEVINE  
GREER FAY CASHMAN

IT WAS entirely appropriate that on the very day that Binyamin Netanyahu was making his first prime ministerial visit to Egypt, Anoud Rifai, wife of the Jordanian ambassador, should be making her first visit to Jerusalem. Reuma Weizman told her guest at Beit Hanassi yesterday. Also in attendance was Jane Biran, whose husband Yoav heads the Jordan desk at the Foreign Ministry. Anoud Rifai has not yet settled here, and is commuting between Jordan and Israel to be near her sons Faisal, eight, and Abdullah, four, whose Arabic education is important to their parents. The boys may enroll in school here next year.

THEIR CURRICULA vitae have several similarities. Both are models, TV program hosts and thespians, and both starred in the premier commercial shown on Channel 2. In the memorable Castro clip, Lior Cohen was an unshaven flasher, and Yael Abecassis was the slightly amused, unshockable young woman who flashed back, then walked right on by. In point of fact, the two walked right into each other's lives, and a warm friendship soon developed into a hot romance which will take its natural course under the huppa later this year. Last Friday, the couple registered with the Tel Aviv Rabbinate.

IN A personal protest against what they termed religious coercion, outspoken feminist author and journalist Irit Lior and Channel 1's military correspondent Alon Ben-David were married this week in a civil ceremony in Cyprus.

ANOTHER CELEBRITY union making increasing headlines as the August 4 nuptials draw near is that of rock star Aviv Geffen and his live-in soul mate Dana Berkowitz. The hyped-up matrimonial happening which will be



Reuma Weizman (right) and Anoud Rifai, wife of the Jordanian ambassador, enjoy each other's company yesterday at Beit Hanassi. (Isaac Harari)

officially by Conservative rabbi Gil Nativ at the Tel Aviv beachfront, will be the third wedding to the Dayan family in a two-month period. Labor MK Yael Dayan and her brother filmmaker Assi Dayan, second cousins to the groom, are each parents of newlyweds.

SCHEDULED TO wind up his tour of duty at the end of this month, South African Ambassador Malcolm Fergusson will stay on a little longer to oversee the upcoming state visit by South African President Nelson Mandela.

CAESAREA SOCIALITE Sara Baruchin was one of the early arrivals at the 14th of July reception hosted by French Ambassador Jean-Noel de Bouillane de Lacoste and positioned herself by a tree in the gar-

den, where she appeared to be having a reception of her own. Strikingly clad in an Oscar de la Renta lace dress and a Chanel hat, she was impossible to miss, and all her friends and acquaintances made an immediate beeline in her direction.

SPECULATION continued to mount at the Bastille Day reception that the event was being boycotted by both the government and the opposition in response to the cooling-off in relations between France and Israel. Government ministers were either absent or late because they were at the airport to officially welcome home the prime minister. However a Foreign Ministry delegation led by Director-General Eitan Beotzur and protocol chief Miryam Shomrat was in evidence as were Shomrat's immedi-

ate predecessor Mordechai Palzur, former defense minister Moshe Arens, and former Foreign Ministry director-general Yossi Hadass. President Ezer Weizman and Labor Party leader Shimon Peres appeared when the affair was well under way. Many of the Israelis rushed to shake hands with Peres and to assure him (for what it was worth), that they had in fact voted for him.

BECAUSE SHE spends the summer at her second home in Geveva, Honorary World WIZO President Raya Jaglom, who is a familiar figure at diplomatic events, did not partake of the French ambassador's hospitality. But she will have occasion to make up for the omission soon after her return to Israel in October. During her absence the ambassador sent her a letter informing her of the decision of the president of the Republic of France to confer upon her the Knight Order of the Legion of Honor in recognition of her services to humanity and as a mark of admiration and esteem.

WINDOWS OF opportunity often open when least expected. Actress Aviva Marks was on her way to attend a cruelty-to-animals protest when an acquaintance persuaded her to change direction and accompany her to the Israel Writers' Union where Haifa-born, Swiss-educated former beauty queen Yaffa Feigin-Reich was launching her mystery thriller *They Played with Trains*. Marks, who works as a translator when she's not on stage and has brought

Hebrew writers such as Ya'acov Shabtai to the attention of English readers, asked Feigin-Reich if her book was available in English. The author's response was that she was looking for a good translator. The upshot was that Marks may find herself busier this summer than she had originally anticipated.

THOUGH POLITICAL leaders are reluctant to step out of office, Ruth Borman, who four years ago accepted the invitation of Ilan honorary president Tamar Kollek to become the founding chairperson of the Jerusalem Friends of Ilan (the Israel Foundation for Handicapped Children), had no problem in relinquishing her role. At a farewell reception which Ilan Jerusalem held in her honor, Borman, who during her period of tenure raised over NIS 1 million for Ilan Jerusalem, said she was a firm believer that in order to keep the system fresh and vital, one had to have a changing of the guard.

FORMER LIKUD MK Assad Assad, who was a member of Netanyahu's entourage to the US, is the premier's new adviser on minorities and political affairs. Reportedly offered the ambassadorship to either Jordan or Egypt, Assad declined, saying he would rather take care of the needs of his own Druze community. In his new capacity, he will also advise the prime minister on matters related to Syria and Lebanon.

THAT LEAVES Egypt and possibly Jordan up for grabs. There has been general confusion as to whether Labor-appointed Shimon Shamir will continue as ambassador to Jordan. Shamir has been traveling between Jordan and Israel with increasing frequency. Whether this is an attempt to assure his place on the diplomatic scene or whether he is job-hunting in academia is anyone's guess. Zvi Mazal, currently head of the Africa desk at the Foreign Ministry, and considered some months ago to be the leading candidate for ambassador to Egypt, may face competition from new players.

BUDGET BATTLES notwithstanding, Finance Minister Dan Meridor, like the rest of his family, remains a culture vulture, with the Israel Museum as one of his pet interests. On assuming his role in the government, Meridor had to resign from the chairmanship of the museum's board of directors and was replaced by businessman and art collector Dov Gottesman. But the museum remains close to his heart, and he and his wife Liora and son Matan were observed touring the exhibition of masterpieces from Imperial Vienna.

THE demonstration planned on Bar-Ilan Street for this Saturday is on.

No, not by Meretz and Labor (though they'll be there too), but by haredi leaders, who are planning to bring 50,000 people to the street and enliven an otherwise dull Shabbat afternoon by tossing debris and diapers at the police. The demo, which was first off, then on again, is being organized by the haredi tribunal in protest at the High Court ruling putting off the decision on closing the street during Sabbath prayer times. (Did anyone raise an eyebrow that the haredi council itself was organizing and approving these demonstrations?)

The haredi tribunal intends to follow up last week's riotous outbursts with more of the same—not much of a weekend prospect for police officers. Who was to blame? The police, of course, according to the demands rising long and shrill for the firing of their commanders. And Meretz, also of course, always to blame for the worst haredi violence. Confused? It's a very confusing place, but don't expect a religious experience on Bar-Ilan Street in the near future. While the haredi "event" was thought to be off, Meretz and Labor announced a demonstration for 7:30 p.m. on Saturday on the street of shame to protest against it being closed any time or any Saturday.

They will be joined by some of Jerusalem's northern-quarter residents, a gaggle of artists and a new group under the unlikely banner of "Yonog People for Jerusalem Night Life."

A group of Labor activists, reportedly headed by MK Ephraim Sneh and armed with the blessing of party chairman Shimon Peres, already demonstrated separately this week in support of closing Bar-Ilan at prayer times.

This is seen as a clear Labor effort to lick up to the haredim and to disassociate itself from the ultra-secular Meretz responsible, as everyone knows with hindsight, for Labor's downfall in the elections.

DEVELOPMENTS IN LABOR Has Labor little else to occupy its newly found idle time other than demonstrations in haredi quarters?

Seems not. The idea of advancing the party's leadership showdown appears to have been shelved (or swept under the carpet with the election fallout) for the time being after spirited objections from Peres.

There was some listless speculation on whether Peres would follow the British opposition model and form a shadow cabinet.

Ehud Barak apparently was not waiting to find out. He has already taken on the burdensome mantle of shadow foreign and defense minister (or is that shadow prime minister, wondered the wits) and comments on anything and everything Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu does.

Even in the US, Netanyahu found the shadow behind his footsteps, wrote Ben Caspit in *Ma'ariv*. "When Netanyahu arrived in Washington, an article by Barak was waiting for him in the *Washington Times*, with lots of advice for greenhorn prime ministers. Wherever he goes, whatever he says, Netanyahu finds Barak waiting for him, picking over his statements with a little smile."

Sure enough, with the economy the sour flavor of the week, Barak was right in there, attacking the new government for an economic crisis which he attributed to "confusion, lack of direction, and internal contradictions radiated by Netanyahu."

OFF THE SACRED SOIL! Labor and Social Affairs minister Eli Yishai this week announced that he intends to deport 100,000 foreign workers in the near future when the closure on the territories is eased. Members of the Knesset's Labor

and Social Affairs Committee may have been under the illusion that Yishai is deeply concerned by the inhuman conditions these workers are subjected to by their Israeli employers.

MKS probably believed Yishai was moved by reports of the way some employers underfed their foreign laborers, dock their pay, and sometimes even beat them as well as sending them home without paying them.

No such luck. Yishai was moved rather by the orders of Shas spiritual mentor Rabbi Ovadia Yosef. The foreign workers must be expunged from the sacred soil of Israel because (horrific shudder!) they might form relations with Israeli women.

Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush, of United Torah Judaism, was also deeply concerned. He issued a document to the ministers in charge of bringing in foreign workers, calling for limits to their numbers because of the lurking dangers to the pure daughters of Israel.

Yishai's stand reminded some MKs of the Kach line which Shas took up during the elections, bawling "fallen" Jewish women married to Arabs—a fate worse than death, in universal fundamentalist parlance.

Nor was Shulamit Aloni of Meretz alone in hearing an eerie echo in the propaganda of "miserable women who married Arabs" or who might "form relations with foreigners."

Never slow at mincing words, Aloni said the racist tone of these rulings indicated a Kulturkampf already raging here.

COME IN VEST You won't lose your shirt. "Our economy is in excellent condition. Come and invest in Israel." Prime Minister Netanyahu told Wall Street to applause so thunderous it drowned out the resounding crash of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. Netanyahu doggedly repeated the mantra "the economy's fine, it's in the right direction" on the flight home.

In private, the tune was different. When the economy's fine, the prime minister does not summon the finance minister and central bank governor at midnight for an all-night emergency sing-song—Netanyahu's first act on his return. Dan Meridor and his Treasury officials have their own favorite refrain. It runs: "The economy is sick, the economy is in crisis, it's a background chorus of 'it's all Labor's fault'."

The tune certainly has changed. The one they used to chant before the draconian economic measures were unveiled was, "There will be no drastic measures, the economy is doing fine, it's in a state of growth." Apart from its brief debut on Wall Street, that one has vanished.

Whatever the crooning of Netanyahu and Meridor, the stock market refused to be lulled, soothed or taken off the boil. Downward it plunged to the cries and hysteria of the damned.

"Markets are about confidence," observed one laconic MK. "If this is a measure of public confidence in Netanyahu and his economic policy, things are in the toilet."

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CAMEMBERT BLUES

The French ambassador's July 14 (Bastille Day) reception on the lawn of his magnificent Jaffa residence brought out the best-known faces in Israel, including the cream of the diplomatic corps.

Among the ranks of the foreign ambassadors this year were an odd number of long faces in muted conversations with their media contacts. The brie was off, perhaps? Or the Macon wine in the wooden barrel was feeling the heat?

Not at all. French excellence was in order. The gloom hung over the conversations about the direction Israel's foreign relations might be headed. "Difficult" was the keyword.

Lending an attentive ear was a rather tired and depressed-looking Shimon Peres, an ardent Francophile who could not miss the event. It was hard to miss the presence of the former prime minister if somewhat more difficult to exchange some words with him. The crowd which formed around him quickly outgrew the throng in the coming-and-going official reception line.

Perhaps if there had been more incumbent ministers around, he might not have been in such demand. A senior diplomatic source hinted darkly of rumors of a deliberate government absence following some stinging comments from French Foreign Minister Hervé de Charette on the peace process.

But there was a simpler explanation: a competing reception for Netanyahu at Ben-Gurion Airport on his return from Washington, which had not been delayed by any unscheduled stops in Morocco.

"Bibi is a stickler for protocol," confided one Likud source. "All the officials are there."

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Jerusalem Post

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Friday, July 19, 1996

15

## Caesarea's neo-pagans

ON THE AGENDA  
AMOTZ ASA-EL

ANCIENT Caesarea — where one could walk for miles hearing mainly Greek and pass by amphitheaters, hippodromes, and stadiums, where crowds gathered to watch plays, horse races, or gladiator fights — was the pagan antithesis to a less cosmopolitan Jerusalem.

The tale of two antagonistic cities echoed again this week, though in a different way, as Jerusalem's economically conservative officials locked horns in that very same Caesarea — where Israel's economic elite met for its annual conference with Tel Aviv's financial elite.

However, this time around it was the Jerusalemites — led by Finance Minister Dan Meridor and Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel — who seemed better connected to the world, while their adversaries from the coastal plain sounded at times embarrassingly provincial.

It was strange to hear someone as savvy and successful as Teva CEO Eli Hurvitz chide Meridor for contemplating a full abolition of the capital-investment aid law, or for the latter's hailing of service industries as no less economically significant than manufacturing ones.

Much more than perplexing — indeed, frightening — was the unprecedented siege which gathered around Frenkel, who was pressured by an assortment of business leaders, from Koor CEO Benny Gaon to Likud MK Silvan Shalom, to gradually lower interest rates.

The fact is that, at least in the theories they espouse, Meridor, Frenkel and Netanyahu are more up-to-date than private sector leaders.

It is one thing for a politician, like MK Yossi Beilin, to speak economic gibberish and suggest that this week's financial-market turbulence reflected investors' judgment of Netanyahu's diplomacy. It is an entirely different thing when this comes from respectable businessmen, who should remember that the Tel Aviv Exchange had been in deep crisis for two-and-a-half years prior to this week, pretty much in tandem with the post-Oslo period.

Those who forgot why the public really abandoned the TASE, got another reminder yesterday, with the break out of the La Nationale doctored balance-sheet scandal.

Similarly, to suggest the markets' woes are attributable to the price of money — namely the central bank's short-term interest rates — simply holds no water. In Wall St., for instance, after the Fed reversed, in spring '94, a five-year-old lower-rates policy, investors responded by creating one of the most impressive bull markets ever seen in the world's most powerful financial hub.

Unfortunately, too many of Israel's private-sector leaders are still the product of an era where their decision-making process was tied by the umbilical chord to the whims of Jerusalem's bureaucrats.

Ironically, now that they are finally faced with a government that shows a genuine willingness to retreat from their affairs, many business leaders prefer to pressure the government to lavish on them investment aid and to depreciate our shekel, rather than to rationalize their businesses, so that those remain profitable while the people ordered by the law to defend the national currency do just that.

Paganism, widely practiced in ancient Caesarea, was once again in vogue there this week, as worshippers of easy money all but left Frenkel to his devices in the midst of roaring lions.

## Panel to probe repeal of capital-investment aid

DAVID HARRIS

THE government is considering repealing the capital-investment aid law, which encourages investment in the country's development areas.

Finance Minister Dan Meridor and Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky yesterday announced the establishment of a committee to examine the long-term need and current mechanisms for the aid program.

As part of the cabinet's NIS 4.9 billion budget cut proposals, aid available to investors in the high-tech development priority Zone A areas will be reduced from 34 percent to 20%. However, the committee will consider an even deeper reform of the grant system, in addition to the law's very existence.

The committee will also examine the method of government involvement in the scheme and

happening here." Industry and Trade Ministry spokesman Dor Meron said last night. He was referring to the bitter battle between Avraham Shohat at the Treasury and Micha Harish, who was replaced by Sharansky.

Investors received grants worth 38% of their gross investment until last year, when the Peres government agreed that a reduction be made over two years, despite strong opposition from Harish. From January 1996 the aid was reduced to 34%, with a government commitment to reduce it by a further 4% at the start of 1997.

The team will be headed by the director of Bank Hapoalim's investment subsidiary Pe'ilim Yoram Gabai. Meridor and Sharansky have asked for the committee to finish its work within 60 days.

However, officials in both camps are playing down any differences that might exist. "What happened between the finance and industry and trade ministers in the old government is certainly not

## C'ttee wants interest rates lowered

EVELYN GORDON

MKS from both sides of the House united at a Knesset Finance Committee meeting on the state of the capital markets yesterday to demand that Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel lower interest rates.

The committee has frequently issued such calls, without noticeable effect on Frenkel. Yesterday, however, even some of Frenkel's traditional supporters joined the call.

"For years I have supported the governor of the Bank of Israel when he raised interest rates, because I thought he was the only one doing anything to fight inflation," said Silvan Shalom (Likud), who heads the coalition in the committee. "But now, given the crisis in the capital markets, a change in the trend is needed."

The head of the opposition in the committee, Avraham Shohat (Labor), who frequently clashed with Frenkel over interest rates dur-

ing his tenure as finance minister, also said an immediate drop in rates is essential.

The high rates cause a flight from the market, he said, by enabling people to get a comparable rate of return on bank savings plans, which are safer. It was largely the fact that savings plans offered a low rate of return that previously sent so many people into the market, he said.

Committee chairman Avraham Ravitz (United Torah Judaism) said it is unreasonable to expect Frenkel to lower interest rates while trying to achieve a single-digit inflation rate. Therefore, he said, the government should decide that this is a state of emergency, which temporarily justifies higher inflation.

"The government must make a courageous decision," he said. Alternately, he said, Frenkel should at least promise that he will lower rates if the government's budget-cutting plan is enacted. Such a promise would calm the markets, he said, even if it were fulfilled only in six months.

David Klein, head of the central bank's monetary division, detailed the government's plans to intervene in the capital markets. The Bank of Israel is currently planning a tender in which it will offer to buy up to NIS 250 million worth of bonds in each of the next two weeks, he said. However, he added, it is quite possible that it will end up buying less,

because often just the knowledge that someone is buying calms people down and makes them less eager to sell. This is what happened the last time the central bank planned a market intervention, about 18 months ago.

Treasury officials also discussed plans for structural reform of the capital markets. According to Ravitz, one proposal the Treasury is considering is to give investors in provident funds more control over where their money is invested. Currently, such decisions are entirely at the discretion of the fund managers, within the limits imposed by law.

The committee also discussed Dimona Textile. Treasury and Industry and Trade Ministry representatives said it would take more than \$7 million to rehabilitate the company, which they consider too expensive to be worthwhile. Company managers said \$2.5m. to \$5m. would be enough.

Ravitz asked the owners to report back to the committee next week on the success of their efforts to find a strategic investor. The owners said they are negotiating with one, and Ravitz promised if they succeed, the committee will pressure the government to supply the necessary funds — a position which appears to have broad support in the committee.

"But without a strategic investor, it's impossible," Ravitz said. "They'll have to appoint a receiver, perhaps."

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BITS AND BYTES  
JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Alirroo receives \$650m. in investments: Dovrat Shrem, the Polaris Fund, and Mirage invested a total of \$650 million in a private placement in Alirroo, the Kfar Sava-based developer of software that encrypts information transmitted via fax and electronic mail and stores it in computer files.

Bosch and Ford to buy from Vishay: German electronics manufacturer Bosch and car manufacturer Ford have announced plans to purchase electronic components from Vishay's new Migdal Ha'emek factory, the American company's fourth Israel-based plant.

Honda buys Sapiens software: Honda (Japan) purchased \$1 million worth of Sapiens application development tools used for building and maintaining a wide range of business applications on IBM mainframe computers.

Intel seeks engineers: Intel, which is to open a plant in Kiryat Gat in 1997, has requested that academicians from the universities and colleges for the sciences and advanced technologies assist in its search for engineers.

Mondex enters Israel's 'electronic-purse' fray: Mondex International, a British company that produces the technology for "electronic purses," and Rini Electronic Cash Systems Ltd., an Israeli company, recently announced plans to develop a smartcard for the Israeli market.

Electronic money is expected to hit the Israel scene by the end of the year, and the banks are currently considering suppliers for the cards. Company's such as Visa and Isracard are also involved in developing smartcards.

Scorpio to be bought by US firm: US Robotics (Nasdaq) recently announced that it has entered into an agreement to acquire Scorpio Communications Ltd.

Based in Tel Aviv, Scorpio designs, manufactures and sells scalable, fully redundant, fault-tolerant ATM switches that target work group, corporate backbone and wide area network access environments.

US Robotics designs, manufactures, markets and supports remote access servers, enterprise communications systems, desktop/mobile client products, modems and telephony products.

Vcom technology used in Japan Airlines security system: Triangle Technologies, representative of the Japanese software company Nippon Systemware, recently announced that Nippon, utilizing technology from the Herzliya-based Vcom Telecommunications, won a contract to supply a remote security monitoring system to Japan Airlines.

NSW is one of Japan's leading system integrators, with sales of over \$200 million and has been one of Vcom's Japanese distributors since 1995.

## US trade deficit swells in May

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The US trade deficit in goods and services jumped 13.2 percent in May to \$10.9 billion, its highest level since January 1992, the US Commerce Department said yesterday.

A record \$69.8b. in exports in May was not enough to offset a record \$80.6b. in imports, the department said.

Record imports of automobiles and parts, consumer goods, industrial supplies and foods accounted for much of the May increase, the department said.

Most of the increase in car and parts imports came from Canada, Mexico and Germany, the department said.

The May trade gap compared with a revised \$9.6b. gap in April and was much higher than anticipated by Wall Street economists, who were expecting an \$8.2b. deficit. The department previously reported a \$8.6b. gap in April.

"It doesn't surprise me at all in the sense the US economy remained in first four, five or six months of the year one of the strongest growing economies among industrialized nations," said Joe Quinlan, senior international economist at Dean Winter Reynolds.

"That translates into strong imports. Exports are doing well."

Crude oil imports, some 243 million barrels, were the highest since September 1994, the department said. Oil imports were valued at \$4.6b., the highest since November 1990, when crude imports totaled \$4.7b., it said.

The United States typically runs huge deficits in trade of goods, which are offset in part by surpluses in services like travel and tourism.

The May goods deficit increased \$1.3b. from April to \$16.9b., the department said. The services surplus was virtually unchanged at \$6b., the department said.

### ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patrah (foreign currency deposit rates) (20.6.96)

Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.825	4.675	5.375
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.000	4.000	4.250
German mark (DM 250,000)	1.875	1.875	2.375
Swiss franc (CHF 200,000)	1.000	1.000	1.500
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates\* (18.7.96)

Currency basket	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates**
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.6461	3.8033	3.10	3.28	3.1850
German mark	2.1148	2.1481	2.07	2.13	2.1329
Pound sterling	4.8555	4.8441	4.78	5.02	4.9198
French franc	0.6247	0.6348	0.21	0.21	0.6295
Japanese yen (100)	2.9149	2.9820	2.68	3.01	2.9291
Dutch florin	1.9890	1.9185	1.85	1.95	1.9009
Swiss franc	2.5878	2.6293	2.54	2.87	2.6101
Swedish krona	0.4748	0.4825	0.48	0.49	0.4786
Norwegian krona	0.4917	0.4987	0.48	0.51	0.4956
Danish krone	0.5496	0.5575	0.53	0.57	0.5530
Finnish mark	0.6954	0.7097	0.68	0.72	0.7007
Canadian dollar	2.2980	2.3331	2.25	2.37	2.3185
Australian dollar	2.4983	2.5285	2.44	2.57	2.5217
S. African rand	0.7189	0.7205	0.65	0.74	0.7283
Singapore franc (10)	1.0289	1.0435	1.00	1.06	1.0382
Austrian schilling (10)	3.0081	3.0548	2.95	3.10	3.0310
Italian lira (1000)	2.0696	2.1030	2.03	2.14	2.0898
Jordanian dinar	4.3900	4.8900	4.39	4.89	4.4900
Egyptian pound	0.9000	0.9800	0.90	0.98	1.0272
ECU	3.9878	4.0220	3.94	4.19	4.0198
Irish punt	5.0254	5.1146	4.84	5.18	5.0725
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4894	2.5398	2.45	2.58	2.5258

\*These rates vary according to bank. \*\*Bank of Israel.  
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FTSE 100	3893.4	+3.2%
Nikkei 225	12584.4	+1.2%
DAX	2458.1	+1.2%
Hong Kong Hang Seng	10712.2	+0.1%
ASX 200	171.7	+0.1%

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**INTL MONEY MARKETS**

**Dollar crosses (US)**

London	1.544	-0.008%
Paris	1.544	-0.008%
Frankfurt	1.544	-0.008%
Zurich	1.544	-0.008%
Geneva	1.544	-0.008%
Basel	1.544	-0.008%
Berne	1.544	-0.008%
Lucerne	1.544	-0.008%
St. Gallen	1.544	-0.008%
Appenzel	1.544	-0.008%
Schaffhausen	1.544	-0.008%
Uri	1.544	-0.008%
Obwalden	1.544	-0.008%
Nidwalden	1.544	-0.008%
Valais	1.544	-0.008%
Fribourg	1.544	-0.008%
Basle-St. Leon	1.544	-0.008%
Basle-Cant.	1.544	-0.008%
Soleure	1.544	-0.008%
Jura	1.544	-0.008%
Neuchâtel	1.544	-0.008%
Vaud	1.544	-0.008%
Geneve	1.544	-0.008%
Valle d'Aoste	1.544	-0.008%
Aoste	1.544	-0.008%
Chablais	1.544	-0.008%
Savoie	1.544	-0.008%
Tignes	1.544	-0.008%
Courmayeur	1.544	-0.008%
Chamonix	1.544	-0.008%
Annecy	1.544	-0.008%
Evian	1.544	-0.008%
Thoiry	1.544	-0.008%
Le Grand-Bornand	1.544	-0.008%
Cluses	1.544	-0.008%
Le Grand-Fortin	1.544	-0.008%
Le Petit-Fortin	1.544	-0.008%
Le Grand-Bornand	1.544	-0.008%
Cluses	1.544	-0.008%
Le Grand-Fortin	1.544	-0.008%
Le Petit-Fortin	1.544	-0.008%

**LIBOR RATES**

3 months	5.50%
6 months	5.50%
12 months	5.50%
18 months	5.50%
24 months	5.50%
30 months	5.50%
36 months	5.50%
42 months	5.50%
48 months	5.50%
54 months	5.50%
60 months	5.50%
66 months	5.50%
72 months	5.50%
78 months	5.50%
84 months	5.50%
90 months	5.50%
96 months	5.50%
102 months	5.50%
108 months	5.50%
114 months	5.50%
120 months	5.50%

**Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.**

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**US commodities**

Crude Oil	18.95	+0.15
Gasoline	1.15	+0.02
Heating Oil	1.15	+0.02
Coal	1.15	+0.02
Wheat	1.15	+0.02
Soybeans	1.15	+0.02
Corn	1.15	+0.02
Iron Ore	1.15	+0.02
Natural Gas	1.15	+0.02
Gold	1.15	+0.02
Silver	1.15	+0.02
Palladium	1.15	+0.02
Platinum	1.15	+0.02
High-grade Copper	1.15	+0.02

**London commodities**

Crude Oil	18.95	+0.15
Gasoline	1.15	+0.02
Heating Oil	1.15	+0.02
Coal	1.15	+0.02
Wheat	1.15	+0.02
Soybeans	1.15	+0.02
Corn	1.15	+0.02
Iron Ore	1.15	+0.02
Natural Gas	1.15	+0.02
Gold	1.15	+0.02
Silver	1.15	+0.02
Palladium	1.15	+0.02
Platinum	1.15	+0.02
High-grade Copper	1.15	+0.02

**Spot market metals (US)**

Gold	382.80	+0.2
Silver	3.80	+0.01
Platinum	1.15	+0.02
Palladium	1.15	+0.02
High-grade Copper	1.15	+0.02

**New York metal futures**

Gold	382.80	+0.2
Silver	3.80	+0.01
Platinum	1.15	+0.02
Palladium	1.15	+0.02
High-grade Copper	1.15	+0.02

**TEL AVIV STOCKS**

Multi-sided trading				Two-sided trading			
Name	Price	Change	Volume	Name	Price	Change	Volume
Amir	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir A	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir A	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir B	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir B	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir C	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir C	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir D	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir D	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir E	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir E	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir F	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir F	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir G	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir G	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir H	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir H	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir I	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir I	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir J	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir J	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir K	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir K	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir L	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir L	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir M	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir M	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir N	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir N	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir O	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir O	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir P	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir P	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir Q	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir Q	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir R	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir R	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir S	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir S	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir T	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir T	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir U	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir U	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir V	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir V	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir W	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir W	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir X	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir X	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir Y	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir Y	28.125	+0.37%	1000
Amir Z	28.125	+0.37%	1000	Amir Z	28.125	+0.37%	1000

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**INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES**

Name	Price	Change	Name	Price	Change	Name	Price	Change
Amir	28.125	+0.37%	Amir	28.125	+0.37%	Amir	28.125	+0.37%
Amir A	28.125	+0.37%	Amir A	28.125	+0.37%	Amir A	28.125	+0.37%
Amir B	28.125	+0.37%	Amir B	28.125	+0.37%	Amir B	28.125	+0.37%
Amir C	28.125	+0.37%	Amir C	28.125	+0.37%	Amir C	28.125	+0.37%
Amir D	28.125	+0.37%	Amir D	28.125	+0.37%	Amir D	28.125	+0.37%
Amir E	28.125	+0.37%	Amir E	28.125	+0.37%	Amir E	28.125	+0.37%
Amir F	28.125	+0.37%	Amir F	28.125	+0.37%	Amir F	28.125	+0.37%
Amir G	28.125	+0.37%	Amir G	28.125	+0.37%	Amir G	28.125	+0.37%
Amir H	28.125	+0.37%	Amir H	28.125	+0.37%	Amir H	28.125	+0.37%
Amir I	28.125	+0.37%	Amir I	28.125	+0.37%	Amir I	28.125	+0.37%
Amir J	28.125	+0.37%	Amir J	28.125	+0.37%	Amir J	28.125	+0.37%
Amir K	28.125	+0.37%	Amir K	28.125	+0.37%	Amir K	28.125	+0.37%
Amir L	28.125	+0.37%	Amir L	28.125	+0.37%	Amir L	28.125	+0.37%
Amir M	28.125	+0.37%	Amir M	28.125	+0.37%	Amir M	28.125	+0.37%
Amir N	28.125	+0.37%	Amir N	28.125	+0.37%	Amir N	28.125	+0.37%
Amir O	28.125	+0.37%	Amir O	28.125	+0.37%	Amir O	28.125	+0.37%
Amir P	28.125	+0.37%	Amir P	28.125	+0.37%	Amir P	28.125	+0.37%
Amir Q	28.125	+0.37%	Amir Q	28.125	+0.37%	Amir Q	28.125	+0.37%
Amir R	28.125	+0.37%	Amir R	28.125	+0.37%	Amir R	28.125	+0.37%
Amir S	28.125	+0.37%	Amir S	28.125	+0.37%	Amir S	28.125	+0.37%
Amir T	28.125	+0.37%	Amir T	28.125	+0.37%	Amir T	28.125	+0.37%
Amir U	28.125	+0.37%	Amir U	28.125	+0.37%	Amir U	28.125	+0.37%
Amir V	28.125	+0.37%	Amir V	28.125	+0.37%	Amir V	28.125	+0.37%
Amir W	28.125	+0.37%	Amir W	28.125	+0.37%	Amir W	28.125	+0.37%
Amir X	28.125	+0.37%	Amir X	28.125	+0.37%	Amir X	28.125	+0.37%
Amir Y	28.125	+0.37%	Amir Y	28.125	+0.37%	Amir Y	28.125	+0.37%
Amir Z	28.125	+0.37%	Amir Z	28.125	+0.37%	Amir Z	28.125	+0.37%

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**Two-Sided Index**      **Maof Index**

STOCKS rose for the first time in 11 sessions yesterday, led by Teva, Bank Hapoalim, and Koor.

Investors will be looking next week toward reports from the provident funds for signs of whether small investors are still selling. They will also have an eye peeled on interest rates; the central bank sets policy for August on July 29.

The recovery from the 15 percent drop in the share indexes over the past two weeks was "backed up by Wall Street," which rebounded yesterday, said Daniela Fim, head of sales at the securities firm Betucha.

At the same time, "I don't think the worse is necessarily over," Keith Phillips, analyst at the Israel desk at Societe Generale Strauss Tumbull in London,

**Shares boosted by Greenspan speech**

**WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP**

LONDON (Reuters) - European bourses closed firmer yesterday as Wall Street took heart from a speech by Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan warning of the dangers of inflation and signaling that the next move for US interest rates may be up - but not immediately.

Markets had feared an imminent rate hike and analysts said there was relief since Greenspan's comments were interpreted as indicating credit tightening would not come right away.

An early rate hike had been feared since the release of surprisingly strong US June employment data.

The Dow Jones industrial average extended its gains and bonds rallied after Greenspan told the Senate Banking Committee the US central bank had become "especially vigilant" with regard to inflation and was ready to act preemptively if necessary.

The dollar appeared virtually unmoved by the remarks, weakening slightly though remaining within the day's trading range.

"It didn't change our view as it seems to be indicating a strong bias towards tightening policy," said Mark Cliffe, chief international economist at HSBC Markets in London.

Blue chip shares in London, Europe's biggest bourse, ended at their highest levels, almost one percentage point up, but dealers reported continuing anxiety about the outlook for US shares

following this week's gyrations on Wall Street.

The London trading day had been marked by caution with dealers reluctant to draw premature conclusions after the sharp retrenchment of recent days, which saw the blue chip FTSE index lose some three percent of its value in five trading sessions.

"Everybody is keeping an eye on the US - nobody is quite sure it's settled down yet," said one head of trading.

German shares ended floor trading slightly higher prior to Greenspan's remarks, with the main DAX index above the psychologically-important 2,500-point level, but dealers said activity had been muted.

The Paris bourse also finished up, though off its highs, having given back some of its early gains after the Bank of France left its key interest rates unchanged.

The dollar wobbled during the day - initially dipping towards 108 yen on perceptions of higher rates in Japan, then firming before again slipping in mid-afternoon.

The prospect of lower German rates increased after a drop yesterday in the Ifo institute's business climate index, helping the dollar strengthen to a peak of 149.50 marks.

It dropped back later to around 148.90, partly depressed by a 13.2% jump in the US trade deficit in goods and services in May to \$10.9 billion, its highest level since January 1992.

**Stocks rally on Wall Street**

**WALL STREET REPORT**

NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks rallied yesterday as the market continued to steady from this week's wild gyrations and central bank chairman Alan Greenspan soothed investor fears about inflation.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose about 87 points. The blue-chip barometer and broader measures had given back some opening gains before jumping higher with bonds following Greenspan's economic report to Congress.

Greenspan confirmed expectations central bank policy-makers will likely nudge short-term interest rates up to counter inflationary pressures that might threaten

economic growth. But the over-cautions Greenspan also took pains to leave his options open, saying "inflation has remained quiescent" and predicting a slowdown that could dampen inflation



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E. Shimon, view elevator 4 + dining area, \$340,000  
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I. SHARON 5, bright, 2 WC's, stone, pool \$335,000  
REHAVIA 4, prime, stone, prime location \$380,000  
GER. COLONY 3, spacious, renovated, prime \$380,000  
REHAVIA 4, quiet, low fl. RENOVATED \$425,000  
TAMARIT RANBARA 4, luxury, LUXURIOUS \$450,000  
I. VEGAN 8, one level, pvt. entrance, patio \$480,000  
TALMITE 4, grad. fl. close, DEMACALATE \$550,000  
YALMITE 4, NEW, fully furnished/fined \$550,000  
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CASTI 3, luxury 2 levels, gnd. patios \$200,000  
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CAPITAL 02-794911, GERMAN colony, 7, private garden & entrance, quiet, Arab-style.

ARAB 02-784911, BAKA, 2, 1st floor, beautifully renovated, quiet, high ceilings.

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HEBREW UNION COLLEGE, 13 King David St., Shabbat morning service, 9:30 a.m.

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**PARDON**

(Continued from Page 1)

student near the Damascus Gate, then murdered another prisoner while in jail, for which she received a life term. At the same time, then OC Central Command Ilan Biran declined to cut short the terms of three other women.

The Palestinian Authority charged their refusal violated the Oslo Accords and, in a show of solidarity, the other women eligible for release opted to remain in prison.

The IDF Spokesman said OC Central Command Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan has not yet decided whether he will pardon the three women Biran refused to free. Should he decline to pardon them, the other women prisoners will likely continue to decline release.

The fate of the women prisoners has been one of the sore points in Israeli-Palestinian relations.

Weizman said he decided to reverse himself and pardon the two prisoners several months ago, but waited with the announcement until after the election.

The Israelis whose sentences were reduced are Nir Efroni, Danny Eisman, Alan Goodman, and Nahshon Walls.

Efroni whose sentence was reduced from life to 22 years, was convicted eight years ago of killing an Arab gas station attendant as revenge for the terror murder of Hadas Kedmi, of Jerusalem. She was killed 12 years ago, but it took the police four years to solve the revenge killing.

Eisman, whose sentence was reduced from life to 17 years and six months, was convicted of murdering an Arab taxi driver 11 years ago.

Goodman, whose life sentence had previously been reduced to 31 years and has now been lowered to 24 years, was convicted of murdering a guard at the Aksa Mosque and wounding several others at the site 14 years ago.

Walls, whose sentence was reduced from life to 15 years, was convicted of murdering an Arab woman when he opened fire on an Arab car five years ago. (Iim)

**CRASH**

(Continued from Page 1)

Pennsylvania high school French club.

Last night, TWA began releasing the names of the victims. The crew's pilots, Capt. Steve Snyder, of Connecticut, and co-pilot Capt. Ralph Kevorkian, of California, had worked for TWA since the mid-1960s and were veteran 747 pilots.

One of the first private boats at the crash site came upon a macabre sight: a yellow TWA life jacket floating on the water.

"It was inflated and it was buckled," said Jimmy Vaccaro, who hooked the empty jacket into the boat. "These things don't light and inflate by themselves - you have to pull on it or blow through the tube."

But the Coast Guard said none of the bodies recovered were life preservers, suggesting that the explosion came without warning. There was no immediate word on whether the plane had made a distress call.

The plane was carrying 210 passengers and 18 crew members, TWA said.

The aircraft arrived from Athens, Greece, and had been on the ground about three hours before its scheduled 8 p.m. take-off for Paris. Some of the passengers were from an earlier canceled flight to Rome.

The Athens-to-New York flight had gone normally, flight engineer Albert J. Mando said.

In Paris after the crash, the large black arrival board at Charles de Gaulle Airport listed Flight 800 as "canceled."

Mike Kelly, a TWA vice president, noted that the Federal Aviation Administration had been placed on an increased level of security because of the Olympics, which began today in Atlanta, but said there had been no specific threats against TWA.

Oliver Revell, a former FBI official, noted that such a jet had never been destroyed in the air by an explosion that was not sabotage.

**Groups blast Eitan's bid to keep expanding Ben-Gurion**

**LIAT COLLINS**

RESIDENTS of communities close to Ben-Gurion Airport and environmental groups yesterday condemned the decision by Environment Minister Raphael Eitan to approve the continuation of the Ben-Gurion 2000 development project.

Eitan's predecessor, Yossi Sarid, had ordered more environmental evaluations and had favored developing Neva'im Airport in the South instead.

Representatives of 20 communities affected by the project, the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel, and Adam, Teva, Ve'din (Israel Union for Environmental Defense) held an emergency meeting to discuss the change in policy. At a press conference afterwards, the opponents of the development plans presented a joint statement, including a demand to urgently meet with Eitan, Interior Minister Eli Shussna, Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy, and Health Minister Tzahi Hanegbi.

They also warned they would take to the streets and use every legal method possible to protest the project, if the developers ignore the official evaluations prepared for Sarid.

Moshe Menashe, chairman of the Lod Valley Regional Council, noted that the plans call for a bypass road which will run through Kfar Habad. "We will witness another Rehov Bar-Ilan," he said.

**PEACE**

(Continued from Page 1)

Netanyahu's next stop.

"He is a direct, warm man," Netanyahu said of Mubarak on the IAF jet that returned him to Israel. "He spoke to the point. I liked that very much."

For his part, Mubarak said the prime minister sounded much different than from his recent speeches in the Knesset and in Washington last week, where he vowed to keep Jerusalem undivided and Israel's capital forever. He said he stressed to Netanyahu that he should implement the interim agreements with the Palestinians, followed by negotiations on the final status of the territories.

"I discussed these vital issues with the prime minister in an atmosphere of candor and open-mindedness," Mubarak said. "No threats or ultimatums were made, because our purpose is to draw the Arabs and Israelis close together, not further."

Aides said Mubarak and Netanyahu arrived at the meeting determined to find a common language of agreement. That, they said, was a mutual commitment to the principles of the 1991 Madrid conference, which referred to UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338.

Mubarak said he interpreted Netanyahu's allegiance to Madrid as meaning that he accepts the principle of exchanging Israeli land for Arab peace. "There's no explanation for resolutions 242 and 338 other than land for peace," he said.

But Netanyahu avoided such an interpretation. "We believe that the peace should be based on the idea of fulfilling existing commitments - that is, all existing treaties are made to be fulfilled," he said. "This involves the principle of reciprocity. We keep our commitments and we expect the other side to fulfill their commitment."

At a news conference following his meeting, the prime minister also announced that Israel would ease the closure on the territories. He said another 10,000 Palestinian laborers would be allowed to enter Israel, along with an increased number of ambulances and trucks. (Story, Page 2)

Regarding the IDF redeployment in Hebron, Netanyahu sounded optimistic, saying the Palestinians are responding to Israeli appeals to increase measures to battle terrorism. "I think we will find a solution [to Hebron]," he said. "I think we will find a way to solve the competing needs."

For Egyptian officials, Netanyahu's remarks were sufficient to declare the meeting a success. "Just saying you're in favor of the peace process is not enough," Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said. "But when you say 'Madrid' it is a step in the right direction. This is a step in the right direction, not the end."

Netanyahu arrived in Cairo welcomed by an Egyptian military band and a delegation headed by Prime Minister Kamal Ganzouri. The prime minister placed wreaths at the tombs of the unknown soldier and president Anwar Sadat.

In contrast, Egyptian newspapers were withering in their criticism of Netanyahu. One opposition newspaper, *A-Doustour*, published a front page headline in Hebrew that read "Netanyahu, we don't want you in Cairo!"

"But even as the prime minister entered the presidential palace, Mubarak's aides signaled that the discussion was not expected to break down in recriminations. "What we are up to is not a war of words, but something much more serious," State Information Service chief Nabil Osman said. "We are perceiving Netanyahu with open minds and hearts."

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**ISRAELI**

(Continued from Page 1)

At Ben-Gurion Airport, passengers on TWA's New York-Tel Aviv Flight No. 884 landed yesterday evening, after their plane had been delayed for five hours at JFK Airport following the explosion. They arrived only with hand luggage, and their suitcases are to arrive tomorrow.

According to the passengers, they were already on the runway waiting to take off, when a stewardess began searching for a passenger named Ahmed who had checked in his bag but was not on the flight. A bomb was suspected and all the passengers and luggage were taken off the plane.

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150 מיליון

# Israel at the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta

**TODAY** - Opening Ceremony  
**TOMORROW**  
 Vadim Alexsev  
 Men's swimming, 100 meters breaststroke, heats  
 Men's swimming, 100 meters breaststroke, B final  
 Men's swimming, 100 meters breaststroke, A final  
 Gocha Chichiasvili  
 Wrestling, Greco-Roman style, 82-kg. First round  
 Wrestling, Greco-Roman style, 82-kg. Rounds two and three  
 Alex Tripolski  
 Shooting, Men's air pistol, 10 meters, 60 rounds  
 Shooting, Men's air pistol, 10 meters, final  
 Vadislav Neiman  
 Boxing, 51-, 57-, 60-kg. First round  
 Setting of time and date for subsequent rounds  
**SUNDAY, JULY 21**  
 Gocha Chichiasvili  
 Wrestling, Greco-Roman style, 82-kg. Rounds 4, 5 and 6  
 Wrestling, Greco-Roman style, 82-kg. finals  
 Vadislav Neiman  
 Boxing, 51-, 57-, 60-kg. First round  
 Setting of time and date for subsequent rounds  
**MONDAY, JULY 22**  
 Lydia Hatoel Zuckerman, Lilach Pariski, Ira Sivotsky, Ayelet Ohayon  
 Women's fencing, individual foil preliminaries  
 Women's fencing, individual foil finals  
 Guy Starick, Boris Polak  
 Shooting, Men's air rifle, 10 meters, 60 rounds  
 Shooting, Men's air rifle, 10 meters, final  
 Yoav Bruck  
 Men's swimming, 100 meters freestyle, heats  
 Men's swimming, 100 meters freestyle, B final  
 Men's swimming, 100 meters freestyle, A final  
 Gal Friedman  
 Windsurfing, first and second races  
 Vadislav Neiman

Boxing, 51-, 57-, 60-kg. First round  
 11:00 Setting of time and date for subsequent rounds  
**TUESDAY, JULY 23**  
 Alex Tripolski  
 Shooting, Men's free pistol, 50 meters, 60 rounds  
 Shooting, Men's free pistol, 50 meters, final  
 Yael Arad, Oren Smadja  
 Judo, women's 61-kg. class, men's 78-kg. class preliminaries and consolation rounds  
 06:00 Judo, women's 61-kg. class, men's 78-kg. semi-finals and finals  
 Eytan Orbach  
 Men's swimming, 100 meters backstroke, heats  
 Men's swimming, 100 meters backstroke, B final  
 Men's swimming, 100 meters backstroke, A final  
 Gal Friedman  
 04:00 Windsurfing, third and fourth races  
 Vadislav Neiman  
 Boxing, 51-, 57-, 60-kg. First round  
 Setting of time and date for subsequent rounds  
**WEDNESDAY, JULY 24**  
 Vadim Alexsev  
 Men's swimming, 200 meters breaststroke, heats  
 Men's swimming, 200 meters breaststroke, B final  
 Men's swimming, 200 meters breaststroke, A final  
 Dan Kutler  
 Men's swimming, 100 meters butterfly, heats  
 Men's swimming, 100 meters butterfly, B final  
 Men's swimming, 100 meters butterfly, A final  
 Gal Friedman  
 Windsurfing, fifth and sixth races  
 Vadislav Neiman  
 Boxing, 51-, 57-, 60-kg. First round  
 Setting of time and date for subsequent rounds  
**THURSDAY, JULY 25**  
 Lydia Hatoel Zuckerman, Lilach Pariski, Ira Sivotsky, Ayelet Ohayon

Women's fencing, team foil preliminaries  
 Women's fencing, team foil finals  
 Guy Starick, Boris Polak  
 Shooting, Men's free rifle, 50 meters, 60 rounds prone  
 Shooting, Men's free rifle, 50 meters, 60 rounds prone final  
 Yoav Bruck  
 Men's swimming, 50 meters freestyle, heats  
 Men's swimming, 50 meters freestyle, B final  
 Men's swimming, 50 meters freestyle, A final  
 Ran Chantal and Nir Chantal; Anat Fabrikant and Shani Kedmi  
 Men's and women's sailing, 470 class yachts, first and second races  
**FRIDAY, JULY 26**  
 Eytan Orbach, Vadim Alexsev, Dan Kutler, Yoav Bruck  
 Men's swimming, 4x100 meters relay medley, heats  
 Men's swimming, 4x100 meters relay medley, final  
 Ran Chantal and Nir Chantal; Anat Fabrikant and Shani Kedmi  
 Men's and women's sailing, 470 class yachts, third and fourth races  
 Constantin Matushevich  
 Track and field, men's high jump, preliminary rounds  
**SATURDAY, JULY 27**  
 Guy Starick, Boris Polak  
 Shooting, Men's free rifle, 50 meters, three positions, 40x3 rounds  
 Shooting, Men's free rifle, 50 meters, three positions, final  
 Gal Friedman  
 Windsurfing, seventh and eighth races  
 Men's and women's sailing, 470 class yachts, fifth and sixth races  
 Rigel Nahum  
 Track and field, men's triple jump, preliminaries  
**SUNDAY, JULY 28**  
 Vadislav Ivanovsky  
 Weightlifting 99-kg., Group B

Weightlifting 99-kg., Group A  
 Gal Friedman  
 Windsurfing, ninth and tenth races  
 Vadislav Neiman  
 Boxing, 51-, 57-, 60-kg. Second round  
 Setting of time and date for subsequent rounds  
 Constantin Matushevich  
 06:30 Track and field, men's high jump, final  
**TUESDAY, JULY 30**  
 Ran Chantal and Nir Chantal; Anat Fabrikant and Shani Kedmi  
 Men's and women's sailing, 470 class yachts, seventh and eighth races  
**WEDNESDAY, JULY 31**  
 Dani Krasnov, Constantin Simionov  
 Track and field, men's pole vault, preliminaries  
 Lior Carmi  
 Women's kayaks 500 meters, 1k preliminaries  
 Women's kayaks 500 meters, 1k consolation round  
**THURSDAY, AUGUST 1**  
 Ran Chantal and Nir Chantal; Anat Fabrikant and Shani Kedmi  
 Men's and women's sailing, 470 class yachts, ninth and tenth races  
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 2**  
 Lior Carmi  
 Women's kayaks 500 meters, 1k semi-finals  
 Dani Krasnov, Constantin Simionov  
 Track and field, men's pole vault, final  
 Vadislav Neiman  
 Boxing, 51-, 57-, 60-kg. semi-finals  
**SUNDAY, AUGUST 4**  
 Lior Carmi  
 Women's kayaks 500 meters, 1k preliminaries  
 Vadislav Neiman  
 Boxing, 51-, 57-, 60-kg. finals  
 Closing ceremony

## Arad won't be at the opening ceremony

THE Israeli dream of watching Yael Arad bear the national flag at tonight's opening ceremony is not to be.

Arad, silver medalist at Barcelona, is suffering from flu and a question mark looms over her participation in the judo event on Tuesday. The virus that struck her at the beginning of the week turned more serious yesterday and forced Arad to postpone her arrival in Atlanta from her training camp in Chicago.

**Passing the flag**  
 Taking Arad's place of honor to lead the delegation is 33-year-old fencer Lydia Hatoel Zuckerman, in her third and final games.

**Sharing Oren's secret**  
 Judoka Oren Smadja, who was a major medal favorite, until last week, is still suffering from his knee injury which has definitely dimmed his Olympic chances. Although he is receiving cortisone injections, and trying to

### ISRAELIS IN ATLANTA

**HEATHER CHAIT**  
 conceal his secret from his opposition, the Olympic draw has him heading his group in the 78kg category with his victor from the world championships, Japan's Koga, topping the second group.

**Injury No. 3**  
 The injuries to these two stars are not the complete story. Swimming coach Leonid Shecht has a torn ankle ligament but is out of bed, now hobbling on crutches.

**Gocha's looking good**  
 Still, most of the delegation are at their peak, rounding off their preparation and trying to cool their nerves and themselves. Wrestler Gocha Chichiasvili, who competes tomorrow, is reportedly in excellent condition and concentration while being kept perfectly isolated from media

### Separate beds

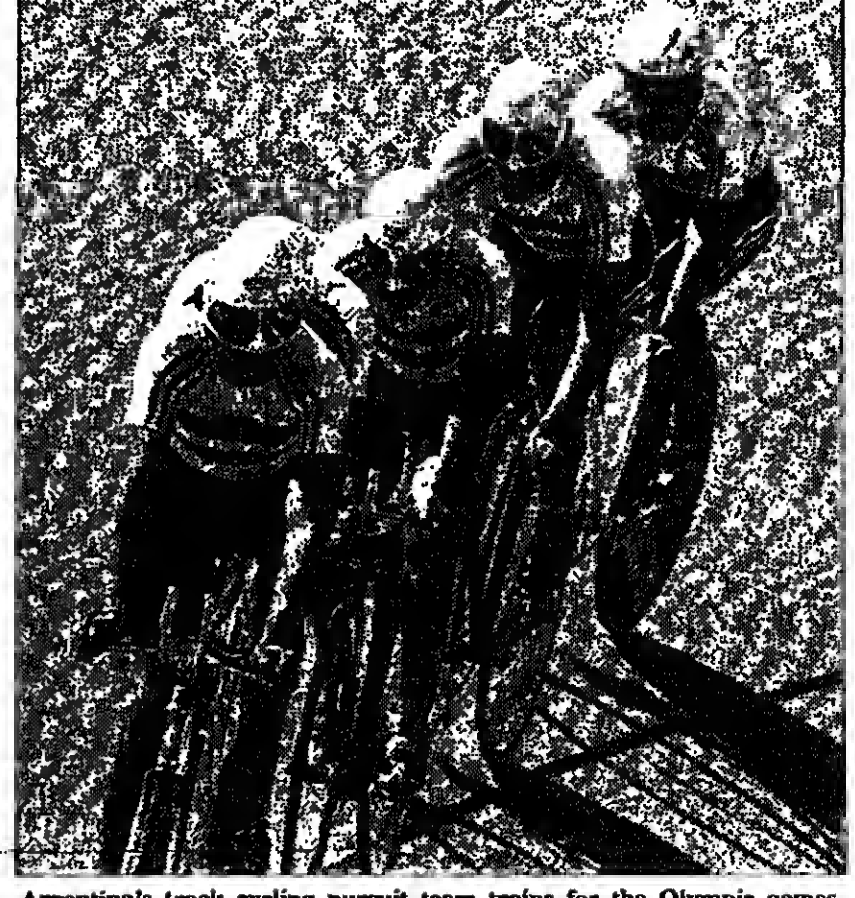
The maritime team of windsurfer Gal Friedman and Olympic-470 sailors Nir and Ran Chantal, Anat Fabrikant and Shani Kedmi sat out Hurricane Bertha and are also in good shape at the venue in Savannah. Nir and Anat, an 'item' back home in Tel Aviv, have even parted ways temporarily to heed the Olympic rules.

### Good hosts

Women fencers Zuckerman, Ayelet Ohayon and Lilach Pariski, were the only Israelis allowed the privilege of training with the host American team. Congratulations, Boris! Happy Birthday to shooter Boris Polak who celebrated his 42nd year this week. Polak, the oldest Israeli athlete, found a bottle of champagne outside his door, a gift from delegation official Efraim Zinger, also in his 42nd year.

## Outstanding achievements by Israeli athletes at the Olympics

SILVER MEDAL	
Yael Arad (Judo)	1992
BRONZE MEDAL	
Oren Smadja (Judo)	1992
FOURTH PLACE	
Yoel Sela, Eldad Amir (sailing)	1988
FIFTH PLACE	
Edvard Weitz (weightlifting)	1976
Fifth-eighth place	
Ya'acov Shmuel (boxing)	1988
SIXTH PLACE	
Esther Shahamorov-Roth (track and field)	1976
Andrei Denisov (weightlifting)	1976
SEVENTH PLACE	
Rami Meron (wrestling)	1976
Eddy Koaz (Judo)	1984
EIGHTH PLACE	
Shimshon Brockman, Eitan Friedlander (sailing)	1984
Yitzhak Yonassi (shooting)	1984
Yevgeny (Danny) Krasnov (track and field)	1992
Ami Inbar (sailing)	1992
NINTH PLACE	
Yoav Ra'anan (diving)	1952
Avraham Melamed (swimming)	1968
Meir Daloya (weightlifting)	1984
Shai Bachar, Erez Shemesh (sailing)	1992
QUARTER-FINALS	
Soccer team	1968, 1976



Argentina's track cycling pursuit team trains for the Olympic games, which begin with the Opening Ceremony tonight. (Reuters)

## Red Sox hold on to beat Yanks

BOSTON (AP) - The Boston Red Sox wasted a seven-run lead, then recovered and stopped John Wetteland's consecutive saves streak, beating the New York Yankees, 12-11 on Jeff Fyre's ninth-inning single on Wednesday.

Boston led 9-2 in the seventh but New York rallied to take an 11-9 lead in the ninth. Wetteland (0-2) then failed to hold it, and his major league record streak of saves in 24 consecutive appearances came to an end.

Kevin Mitchell drove in four runs for Boston, three on a bases-loaded double in the fifth. Vaughn Eschenmaier (4-2) got the victory after getting the last two outs in the top of the ninth.

**Orioles 11, Blue Jays 10**  
 Bobby Bonilla's sacrifice fly in the bottom of the ninth capped a two-run rally against Mike Timlin that lifted the host Baltimore to a comeback victory over Toronto.

The Orioles blew an early 7-3 lead and lost an 8-7 advantage in the eighth, then overcame a 10-8 deficit to beat Timlin for the second time in three games.

It was the second ninth-inning comeback in three days for the Orioles. Timlin, the Blue Jays' closer, blew a three-run lead in the ninth on Monday when the Orioles rallied for an 8-6 victory.

**Royals 3, Indians 2**  
 Jose Offerman doubled twice and host Kansas City took advantage of a leaky Cleveland defense to beat the Indians.

Tim Lincecum (8-5) allowed nine hits in eight innings. Jeff Montgomery finished for his 20th save of the season and the 258th of his career, tying Dan Quisenberry's team record.

Orel Hernandez (9-6) gave up 10 hits, struck out four and walked three in his first complete game since June 5, 1995, and the 67th of his career. He had been 5-1 in his previous seven starts.

**Rangers 7, Angels 3**  
 Juan Gonzalez extended his career-high hitting streak to 19 games with a two-run homer and RBI double for host Texas.

Texas starter Ken Hill (10-5) gave



Baltimore's Brady Anderson slides across home plate with the winning run in the ninth inning of Wednesday game at Camden Yards. Toronto's Sandy Martinez makes the late tag. (Reuters)

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

**Rockies 4, Giants 3**  
 Vinny Castilla and Eric Young had run-scoring hits in the seventh inning and the host Colorado earned its club-record eighth straight win.

Jeff Reed led off with a double Wednesday and was replaced by Quinton McCracken. McCracken was sacrificed to third by Jason Bates and scored on Castilla's pinch-hit single. Young followed with a triple to left-center field, giving rookie Jamey Wright (1-0) his first major league win.

Wright, who was making his third career start, went seven innings, allowing two runs on four hits. Bruce Ruffin struck out Kim Batiato with a runner on second to end the game for his 15th save.

The Giants, who were playing without five regulars in their starting lineup, have lost 20 of their last 24 games.

Oswaldo Fernandez (4-11) has lost 11 of his last 12 decisions, including five in a row.

### Mets 3, Phillies 2

Burt Haskney hit a sacrifice fly with the bases loaded and one out in the bottom of the ninth inning to give host New York its fourth straight win.

In the ninth, pinch-hitter Chris Jones singled off Steve Fyre (0-1) and was sacrificed to second by Lance Johnson. Right fielder J.R. Phillips then dropped Jose Vizcaino's fly ball for a two-base error, allowing Jones to move to third.

After Bernard Gilkey was walked intentionally, Toby Borland was brought in to face Haskney. Haskney's fly ball to right was caught by Phillips, but Jones scored without a play at the plate.

Dave Mlicki (5-4) picked up the win as Mets won for the ninth time in 12 games.

**WEDNESDAY'S NL RESULTS:**  
 St. Louis 6, Cincinnati 4  
 New York 3, Philadelphia 2  
 Pittsburgh at Chicago, ppd., rain  
 Colorado 3, San Francisco 3  
 Florida 11, Houston 2  
 San Diego 5, Los Angeles 4

## O'Neal inks pact with Lakers

### Seven-year deal worth \$120m.

ATLANTA (AP) - Shaquille O'Neal signed a seven-year, \$120 million contract with the Los Angeles Lakers yesterday on the US Dream Team's first full day at the Olympics.

Even though O'Neal refused to talk about the deal, the Lakers confirmed they had signed one of the National Basketball Association's most dominant players.

Just after the signing, the Lakers raised ticket prices, with cheapest seat going from \$9.50 to \$21. The rest of the increases will be announced later, the team said.

O'Neal, a free-agent after four years with the Orlando Magic, said he would discuss his status at an afternoon news conference at

Reebok's Olympic headquarters. His teammates on the Olympic team were already talking about the deal.

"It's kind of devastating, but it's one of those things where you have to wish him the best," said Magic guard Penny Hardaway.

"Obviously, the Lakers are much improved," David Robinson said.

"I think it's great for Shaq. There are guys that haven't done a whole lot who are getting a whole lot of money. So a guy like him, he deserves it and more power to him," Karl Malone said.

O'Neal was at a Dream Team news conference earlier yesterday, but refused to answer any questions about the signing.

## Riis stays in command

HENDAYE, France (Reuters) - Leader Bjorne Riis of Deomark advanced sadly closer to an expected triumph in the Tour de France yesterday just one year after young Italian Fabio Casartelli was killed in the race.

Before the start of the day's 154.5-kilometer ride from Pamplona, Spain, won by Dutchman Bart Voskamp, the best young rider of this year's Tour, German Jan Ullrich, offered a white flower to each rider of the Motorola stable.

Olympic road race champion Casartelli, who was with Motorola, was killed at the age of 25 in a crash in the descent of the Portel d'Aspet mountain pass, to the Pyrenees, on July 18 last year.

On Tuesday, Tour director Jean-

Marie Leblanc, accompanied by Motorola rider Frankie Andreu and officials of the American team, paid him homage by going to the white marble monument built by the side of the road where he fell.

His widow Anna-Lisa will be in Paris where the race ends on Sunday to give his reward to the winner of the best young rider's challenge, now named after Casartelli.

The riders must have had him in mind when they progressed slowly on yesterday's stage to the port of Hendaye, on the French Basque coast, covering only 27 kms in the first hour.

Today's 19th stage is a flat, 226.5 km ride to Bordeaux which could well end with a mass sprint.

## Broadhurst equals course record at British Open

LYTHAM ST ANNES, England (Reuters) - England's Paul Broadhurst withstood a huge American challenge and claimed a share of the Royal Lytham record for the British Open with a six-under-par 65 yesterday.

The former Ryder Cup player, one of seven men who share the British Open record of 63, added to his portfolio by matching the championship-clinching 65 recorded by Seve Ballesteros in the final round when the Open was last played at Lytham in 1988.

The array of talent two shots behind Broadhurst comprised Americans Mark O'Meara, Mark McCumber, Fred Couples, Loren Roberts, Brad Faxon, Tom Lehman and Mark Brooks, along with Hideki Tanaka, a 25-year-old from Hiroshima. All shot 67.

Those on 68 included Masters champion Nick Faldo of Britain, 1994 winner Nick Price of Zimbabwe and South African Ernie Els.

## Olympics on ITV

### HEATHER CHAIT

ISRAELI TELEVISION will broadcast 150 hours over 17 days from Atlanta and with the time difference of seven hours, the live broadcasts will begin at 10pm and continue through the night.

Edited sections of the main events will be re-broadcast daily at the following times: 7:30-8:00 am, 3:30-5:00 pm and 7:30-8:00 pm.

The transmission will begin with the opening ceremony from 3-7:00 am on Saturday, July 20.

According to ITV predictions, athletics followed by gymnastics and swimming will form the bulk of the viewlog. In addition to ITV's Meir Einstein and Uri Levy, expert analysis will be provided by Baruch Chish (swimming), Gilad Weingarten (athletics) and Ya'akov Vishnia (gymnastics).

For other sports, including judo and wrestling, the commentary will come from the studio in Jerusalem.

The ITV staff of 21 will have six hired broadcast stations at the following events: wrestling, judo, the Olympic stadium, swimming, diving and gymnastics.

For coverage of other events at the 38 venues, ITV will take feeds from the European Broadcasting Union which will offer four parallel channels.

ITV, which has the rights to broadcast the Olympic Games until 2008, has invested \$2 million in the Atlanta operation.

## Security tighter in Atlanta after TWA crash

ATLANTA (Reuters) - The International Olympic Committee (IOC) cannot guarantee 100 percent security at the Atlanta Games but it will "try harder" following the TWA plane crash, Israel's IOC member Alex Gilady said yesterday.

Atlanta organizers are mounting a review of their security plan following Wednesday's crash of a TWA airliner carrying 228 people from New York to Paris. Some officials have speculated that a bomb could have caused the explosion which downed the aircraft.

"There is no other event in the world that is so big, so exposed. It's enough that one man wants to make his mark but we will not cancel the Games because of this, just try harder," Gilady said.

AMERICAN LEAGUE		NATIONAL LEAGUE	
East Division	W L Pct GB L10	West Division	W L Pct GB L10
New York	57 36 .610	St. Louis	50 34 .595
Baltimore	48 44 .522	Atlanta	49 35 .584
Boston	42 50 .457	Philadelphia	48 36 .570
Toronto	42 52 .447	Pittsburgh	48 36 .570
Detroit	26 67 .285	San Diego	47 37 .562
Central Division	W L Pct GB L10	Colorado	47 37 .562
Cleveland	56 38 .596	San Francisco	47 37 .562
Chicago	54 40 .574	Los Angeles	47 37 .562
Minnesota	48 47 .485	San Francisco	47 37 .562
Washington	44 48 .479	San Francisco	47 37 .562
Kansas City	41 54 .433	San Francisco	47 37 .562
West Division	W L Pct GB L10	San Francisco	47 37 .562
Texas	55 39 .586	San Francisco	47 37 .562
Seattle	50 42 .543	San Francisco	47 37 .562
Oakland	47 45 .511	San Francisco	47 37 .562
California	45 50 .474	San Francisco	47 37 .562



# Ministerial panel to discuss 'Norwegian law'

THE Ministerial Committee on Legislation is to meet today to discuss the so-called Norwegian law, which would require ministers to vacate their Knesset seats. The draft bill prepared by the Justice Ministry would also oust deputy ministers whose portfolios are held by the prime minister. In the current government, this would affect only Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush. The only ministers not required to resign their Knesset seats would be Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his four

EVELYN GORDON

deputies - Rafael Eitan, David Levy, Zevulun Hammer, and Moshe Katsav - since the Basic Law: The Government requires these posts to be held by MKs. Netanyahu has been pushing the bill, since it would enable him to give a few more plums to his battered Likud Party. Four of the 13 additional people who would enter the Knesset, if the bill passes, are from the Likud. The other coalition parties also support the bill. Even Porush,

who was not originally supposed to lose his Knesset seat under the law, said his party favors getting the extra seat. "It's also an enormous burden to be responsible for a ministry and to have to appear in the Knesset," he told Israel Radio. The Treasury, however, is reportedly unhappy over the bill, which would require the government to fork out another 13 salaries. The salaries alone would cost the state more than NIS 2.5 million a year; to this would be added benefits and eventually pensions.

## Police brace for Bar-Ilan unrest Court ruling on road closure expected next week

JERUSALEM police are ready for unrest at Rehov Bar-Ilan this weekend, despite the promise of most haredi leaders that there will be no protest until after the High Court rules on the issue. The ruling on whether to allow the road to be closed during prayer times on Shabbat is expected to be handed down next week. A protest demonstration organized by Meretz is slated for tomorrow evening. Police gave organizers a permit to bring several hundred demonstrators to the Sanhedria intersection, at the foot of Rehov Bar-Ilan. Hundreds of policemen will

BILL HUTMAN

separate protesters and haredim. The police force is to be beefed up beginning this evening, as haredim have demonstrated at Rehov Bar-Ilan on Shabbat over the past weeks irrespective of whether there was a counter-demonstration. "A Shabbat hasn't gone by recently in which there wasn't some unrest at Bar-Ilan, so we have to be ready," said a senior police officer. "We hope that the Badatz (haredi religious court) postponement of the protest that was to take place this Shabbat will

make things quieter than they could have been," the officer said. Last Saturday, over a dozen haredim were detained during rioting at the thoroughfare, which runs to Jerusalem's northern neighborhoods through a haredi quarter. Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani and MK Avraham Ravitz (UTJ) have promised to be on hand at Rehov Bar-Ilan this Shabbat, to see how the police handle the unrest. Haredi leaders have charged police with brutality, and say the extent of the unrest is exaggerated.



Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak chats with a girl wearing a Nabal beret during a visit yesterday to an IDF-run day camp for orphans and widows of fallen soldiers. Some 300 orphans aged 5-14 attend the camp. (IDF Spokesman)

### WEATHER

Holla	25-31
Tiberias	23-28
Afula	22-24
Samarita	21-29
Jerusalem	21-31
BeerSheva	23-29
Dead Sea	23-29
East	23-31

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear. Slight drop in temperatures. Shabbat: No change.

### AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH		LOW	HIGH	
	C	F		C	F	
Amsterdam	11	52	18	65	cloudy	
Berlin	11	52	18	65	cloudy	
Buenos Aires	11	52	18	65	cloudy	
Calcutta	21	70	27	81	clear	
Chicago	11	52	18	65	cloudy	
Copenhagen	11	52	18	65	cloudy	
Hankow	11	52	18	65	cloudy	
Hong Kong	28	82	32	90	clear	
London	11	52	18	65	cloudy	
Los Angeles	17	63	24	75	clear	
Manila	28	82	32	90	clear	
Moscow	11	52	18	65	cloudy	
New York	11	52	18	65	cloudy	
Osaka	17	63	24	75	clear	
Paris	11	52	18	65	cloudy	
Seoul	17	63	24	75	clear	
Sydney	17	63	24	75	clear	
Tokyo	17	63	24	75	clear	
Zurich	11	52	18	65	cloudy	

## Peres will not put off Labor leadership race

MICHAL YUDELMAN

LABOR Party chairman Shimon Peres announced yesterday he has no intention of postponing the election for the party leadership and is committed to the party rules, which require the contest to be held no later than next year. Peres said he is looking into the possibility of setting up a shadow cabinet and examining, together with other party leaders, the British model. "We should form committees for foreign and defense affairs, social issues, and information. As the opposition, we have many fields to cover," he said. Speaking at a party executive meeting, Peres warned off MK Yossi Katz's demand that he step down, stating that if the leadership race were to take place now, the party would collapse, "and there is no gift the Likud would like better than that." He told Katz he has no interest in putting off the leadership pri-

maries, but it would be wrong to move them up, because the party must take time to calm down, heal, preserve its unity, and overcome internal disputes. "I'm staying out of a sense of responsibility, not out of passion," he said. Although Peres did not say when and if he would resign his position as party leader, many executive members received the impression that he is not planning to run for the leadership again. Several executive members objected to Katz's demand that Peres resign. MK Dalia Itzik said Peres must stay at least another year to rehabilitate the party. "Peres received a party with a huge financial deficit and low morale," she said. "It would be irresponsible of him to quit now. He must rehabilitate the party and reinstate its team spirit. If I thought he were a burden on the party, I would tell him to go home, but that is not the case." Peres's supporters are planning a meeting over the weekend at MK Rafi Elul's house. MK

Ephraim Oshaya, who initiated the meeting, is drumming up support to keep Peres at the party helm for two years, until after the Histadrut elections. MK Ehud Barak reiterated his intention to run for the chairmanship when the time comes, but said until then he will defer to Peres's decision. "The party's constitution says we must elect a chairman within the year, and within this time we must set up a preparatory committee for a party convention and a primaries committee," he said. Barak said he doubts Peres would run against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the 2000 elections. Commenting on the shadow cabinet idea, Barak said he is not in favor of allocating "portfolios" to specific shadow ministers, but supports forming a broad group which will discuss and comment on every issue. Barak said that what the party needs now is to keep in touch with its members, rather than with the public. "The only question is who is able to beat Netanyahu in the next election," he said.

## Forum to discuss Eitan's immunity

THE Knesset House Committee will discuss on Monday Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair's request that it lift the immunity of Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan. Since Eitan has already announced that he wants his immunity lifted, the discussions will probably be a mere formality. Ben-Yair wants to indict Eitan, former energy minister Gonen Segev, and two other Tsomet activists for violations of the Privacy Protection Law. According to the draft indictment, the four extracted confidential documents about another Tsomet activist from an IDF computer, and used these documents to pressure him into leaving the party. Evelyn Gordon

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## Study: Olmert underfunding haredim

BILL HUTMAN

JERUSALEM Mayor Ehud Olmert has failed to keep his promise to bring funding for haredim up to par with that of non-haredim, a study has found. Haredi leaders hope the study, carried out by a haredi advocacy group, will strengthen their demands for more city and state funds. The city's welfare department gives 15 times more money to non-haredim than to haredim, and its youth and sports department nine times more, according to the group, the Jewish Information Center (Manof). The study, based on a review of the 1996 municipal budget, also shows that more than 2.5 more funding per pupil is given to non-haredi schools. "In the municipal elections, Olmert was elected with the votes of the haredim, after he promised equality in funding for the haredi sector," the study states in its introduction, and then goes on to show how he allegedly did not keep the promise. "The haredi population is severely discriminated against in all aspects of budget allocation," although allocations have increased since the time of former mayor Teddy Kollek, the study states. The study has already been distributed to several city councilors, and officials at City Hall, including Deputy Mayor Haim Miller (United Torah Judaism), who said the findings do not surprise him. Miller, however, put blame on the national government, not Olmert. "Our faction has scheduled meetings with the appropriate ministers and will bring our demands before them," Miller said. The municipal spokesman said the report has yet to be officially received by the city, and that "many of the figures presented are unfounded." The study is based on official population figures showing that 33 percent of Jerusalem's population of about 580,000 are haredim.

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